

0856-B-03 PREX 7.10: FBIS-APA-86-045

FBIS-APA-86-045

Friday

7 March 1986

Vol IV No 045

Daily Report

ASIA & PACIFIC



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

JB 99-016992

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Report. In microfiche (prepared weekly) the fee is \$110 for any one volume, \$135 for two volumes, \$160 for three, \$210 for four, \$260 for five, \$310 for six, \$360 for seven, and \$410 for all eight volumes. Foreign subscriptions outside North America are available from appointed foreign dealers or from NTIS.

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NO IMMEDIATE CHANGE IN 'BASIC' RELATIONS WITH USSR

OWO70113 Tokyo KYODO in English 0103 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 7 KYODO -- Foreign Ministry officials said Friday that they see no possibility of immediate change in Japan's basic relations with the Soviet Union as a result of the recent reshuffle of the Soviet party leadership. They said the dismissal of Petr Abrasimov, ambassador to Japan, from the party Central Committee membership is unlikely to lead to his replacement as envoy to Tokyo "at least in the near future."

If the Soviet ambassador to Japan is replaced, the choice of his successor will be an indicator of future Soviet policy toward Japan, they said.

The officials said the Japanese Government is particularly interested in Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's Thursday appointment to the ruling Politburo of Lev Zaykov, an ally who became a party Central Committee secretary last July. Zaykov is not a military man. But he is in charge of the military industries as a Central Committee secretary, and his promotion to the Politburo indicates a move on Gorbachev's part to gain support from the military, they said.

They said Japan is also interested in the appointments to the party Secretariat of two officials well versed in diplomatic affairs -- veteran Washington Ambassador Anatoliy Dobrynin and former envoy to Canada Aleksandr Yakovlev. These promotions indicate an emphasis by the Soviets on relations with the United States, the officials said.

NAKASONE, REAGAN CAMP DAVID TALKS EXPECTED APR 13

OWO61311 Tokyo KYODO in English 1054 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 6 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone will most likely have two rounds of talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the President's Camp David resort April 13, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday. Nakasone is expected to visit the U.S. April 12-14, though the trip has not yet been announced, to hold discussions with Reagan before the Tokyo summit of major Western nations May 4-6. If the Camp David meeting does materialize, Nakasone would be the first Japanese prime minister to hold an official meeting with the U.S. president there.

NAKASONE, ABE MEET WITH U.S. ENERGY SECRETARY

OWO70441 Tokyo KYODO in English 0420 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 7 KYODO -- U.S. Energy Secretary John Herrington called Friday for further development of alternative energy and increased national oil stockpiling to achieve "stable and secure" oil prices. Herrington, in separate meetings with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Foreign Minister Shitaro Abe, also reaffirmed the official U.S. government policy that oil prices should be determined by market forces.

Nakasone told the U.S. Energy secretary falling oil prices and overall energy situations will be discussed in detail by him and leaders from the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Italy and West Germany during their annual economic summit in Tokyo in May, Japanese officials said.

Herrington emphasized that President Ronald Reagan's administration is opposed to moves slap an import surcharge on crude despite strong congressional interest in the suggestion to protect the domestic oil industry, the officials said.

Nakasone said during the meeting with the visiting energy secretary that Japan expects to import 12 million tons of coking coal in the current fiscal year ending on March 31 but that U.S. coal is relatively expensive.

Herrington arrived in Tokyo Thursday on his first visit to Japan since becoming energy secretary in January 1985. He will later visit South Korea and China. The energy secretary said that a prefeasibility study on Alaskan coal is underway to make U.S. coal more competitive on international marketplace.

Japan is expected to import a limited amount of Alaskan crude from Cook inlet, but U.S. regulations still bar exports of oil from Alaska's North Slope region.

Herrington cited the honoring of market forces, development of alternative energy, energy conservation and an increase of national oil reserves as key factors to help realize "stable and secure" oil prices, a Japanese official said after the meeting with Abe. The energy secretary specifically singled out development of nuclear fusion as a step to achieve the objective, the official added. Nakasone and Herrington expressed their hope that the two countries could conclude a nuclear cooperation pact at an early date.

The U.S. energy secretary hailed Japan's decision to liberalize gasoline imports and its successful oil stockpiling program, the officials said. During the meeting with the prime minister, Herrington handed him a letter from President Reagan supporting stability in the oil markets, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Herrington will meet with Yohei Kono, director-general of the Science and Technology Agency and chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Friday afternoon and with International Trade and Industry Minister Michio Watanabe Saturday morning.

YANAI, ARMACOST AGREE TO INCREASE PHILIPPINES AID

OW070445 Tokyo KYODO in English 0416 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Washington, March 6 KYODO -- Japan and the United States agreed Thursday to increase and strengthen their economic aid to the Philippines to help reconstruct its economy and ensure political stability, a senior Japanese Government official said. Shinichi Yanai, deputy foreign minister, and Michael Armacost, U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs, met here to discuss how the two countries can cooperate in foreign policy, especially regarding the Philippines. Yanai said he and Armacost shared the opinion new economic policies by the new Philippine Government are healthy in nature and need the support of Japan and the U.S. Yanai came here after he visited Manila just after the birth of the government under President Corazon Aquino late last month.

The Philippines intends to put emphasis on agricultural development to upgrade the living standard of the majority population -- farmers -- according to Yanai. It also intends to stimulate business activities by small- and middle-sized firms and abandon plans to introduce large-scale heavy industry, according to Yanai.

Yanai also told the press that the two agreed to keep in touch to decide how Japan and the U.S. can share the responsibility by dividing roles according to aim. Of the total foreign economic assistance the Philippines received in 1984, Japan accounted for 45 percent and the U.S. 38 percent.

'MAJOR' GROUND SELF-DEFENSE FORCE SHAKEUP REPORTED

OW070227 Tokyo KYODO in English 0218 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 7 KYODO -- The cabinet decided Friday to promote Gen. Masao Ishii, vice chief of staff of the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF), to chief of staff to succeed retiring Gen. Morio Nakamura. Gen. Taizo Terashima, 53, the GSDF's 11th division head, was appointed to succeed Gen. Ishii as vice chief of staff of the GSDF.

In a major shakeup of GSDF top officers, the Cabinet also decided to replace four district commanding generals and eight division heads with younger officers. The new district commanding generals are Gen. Toshihiro Inoue, 54, of the Northern District Army, Gen. Hiroshi Hiratsuka, 55, of the Eastern District Army, Gen. Hiroshi Takeda, 55, of the Middle District Army, and Gen. Hiroshi Mizusawa, 56, of the Western District Army.

Gen. Hideki Suzuki, 54, the Eighth Division head, was appointed as secretary general of the Joint Staff Council of the GSDF.

Ishii, 55, a graduate of Tokyo's Rikkyo University, joined the then National Safety Forces in 1954 and has been vice chief of staff since last October.

With these personnel changes, the last graduates of the defunct wartime Army Military Academy leave the GSDF. The appointments will be officially announced on March 17.

BANK, POSTAL DEPOSIT INTEREST RATES TO BE CUT

OW070055 Tokyo KYODO in English 0037 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Tokyo, March 7 KYODO -- In line with a scheduled cut in Japan's official discount rate, interest rates on bank and postal deposits will be cut by 0.5 percent points in late March, banking sources said Friday. The expected change in the rates apparently follows a 0.5 percentage point cut in the official discount rate to 4 percent per annum, which the Bank of Japan is expected to set at a policy board meeting later Friday. The change in the key rate, which the Central Bank charges on loans to commercial banks, will take effect Monday.

Finance minister Noboru Takeshita told reporters Thursday that it is desirable for rates on bank and postal savings to follow suit. A high-ranking official of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has hinted that his ministry and the Finance Ministry will not differ in opinions concerning a cut in postal savings rates.

The Central Bank decision to make a further key rate cut has been prompted by growing concern that the recent sharp appreciation of the yen against the dollar will have a deflationary effect on the Japanese economy by depressing exports. Interest rates on bank and postal savings were reduced by 0.5 percentage points when the Bank of Japan cut the key rate by 0.5 points to 4.5 percent on January 30.

KIM IL-SONG CONGRATULATES GORBACHEV ON REELECTION

SK061406 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on his reelection as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The message reads:

To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

I, on behalf of the WPK Central Committee, all members of the WPK, the Korean people, and on my own behalf, extend the most fervent congratulations to you on your reelection as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

Your reelection as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee is an expression of the high respect and trust by all members of the CPSU and the Soviet people toward you, who have accelerated the social and economic development of the country by energetically leading the CPSU and the Soviet people and who have made great contributions to the struggle to preserve peace and to defend security in the world.

I am firmly convinced that under your correct leadership of the CPSU, the fraternal Soviet people will attain great successes in the struggle to implement the decision adopted at the 27th congress of your party, which has provided a new milestone in the development of Soviet society.

Believing that the relations of the class alliance and fraternal friendship between the parties and peoples of our two countries in the future will also be constantly strengthened and developed on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, and through the joint struggle against imperialism and for peace and the socialist and communist cause, I take this opportunity to sincerely wish you new successes in your responsible work for the realization of the cause of Lenin and for the welfare and peace of the Soviet people, and I wish you good health.

Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee

6 March 1986, Pyongyang

SHULTZ REMARKS ON 'THREAT FROM NORTH' CRITICIZED

SK070456 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Pyongyang, March 7 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today in a commentary hits at U.S. Secretary of State Shultz for having ranted that the continued presence of U.S. forces and aid are urgently needed till the Olympic Games. The author of the commentary notes that the jargon of Shultz betraying the wicked intention of U.S. imperialism seeks the vicious aim to buttress the puppets with the bayonets and, at the same time, perpetuate the U.S. forces' occupation of South Korea and further step up war preparations under the pretext of the Olympiad.

The U.S. rulers hammer away at such a poppycock each time a necessity arises to justify their policy of Korean aggression in face of public opinion at home and abroad or to commit new military provocation in South Korea against us. the commentary remarks, and says:

The root cause of the tension on the Korean peninsula is the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and war preparations. This notwithstanding, Shultz clamoured about "threat from the North" in a foolish attempt to shift the responsibility for it onto us.

U.S. NUCLEAR SUBMARINE JAPAN PORT CALL DENOUNCED

SK060541 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0516 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Pyongyang, March 6 (KCNA) -- MINJU CHOSON today, in a commentary notes that the call of the U.S. nuclear submarine "Pogy" at Yokosuka Port furnishes proof that the U.S. imperialists are more zealously stepping up preparations for new war against our country and other Asian socialist countries, using Japanese territory as an aggressive base.

The author of the commentary says: Today Japanese territory is involved deeper and deeper in the nuclear war strategy of the U.S. imperialists against our country, and the Japanese reactionaries seek to realise their expansionist ambition through this.

The Japanese reactionaries, ignoring the "three denuclear principles," let even the U.S. nuclear submarine call at the Japanese port, partaking of the new war policy of the U.S. imperialists. This is an adventure leading Japan to an irretrievable destruction.

434TH MAC MEETING OPENS IN PANMUNJOM 6 MARCH

SK070403 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0211 GMT 7 Mar 86 *reX*

[Text] The 434th MAC Meeting is now being held in Panmunjom at our side's request. At the meeting, our side is strongly protesting and denouncing the U.S. side for staging the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise against the northern half of the republic, wantonly violating the Armistice Agreement, and dragging the aggressive forces into South Korea on a large scale.

As was already reported, at the 433d MAC meeting on 28 January, our side made a strong protest to the U.S. side against its plan to again stage the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise this year and demanded that the U.S. side cancel this plan.

A number of peace-loving countries and peoples of the world, denouncing the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise as a provocative act challenging the Year of International Peace, and dampening the prospects for North-South dialogue, these maneuvers run counter to the trend of the times toward relaxation of tension, and people have raised their voices demanding an end to this exercises.

The U.S. side, however, finally began the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise on 10 February, despite our just demand and the unanimous opposition of the all the Korean people and the peace-loving people of the world.

According to the remarks by Major General Yi Tae-ho, our side's senior member at the meeting, mobilized in this joint exercise are vast troops of more than 200,000 including the major operational commanding system of the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces, combat troops of the Army, Air Force and Navy, the South Korean puppet army, carriers, strategic bombers and missiles, as well as numerous most modern war means.

Hundreds of thousands of combat troops of the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces, who completed preliminary training on the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, Okinawa and other U.S. military bases in the Pacific, and numerous war means have been poured into South Korea after launching air and sea transportation operations.

On 13 February, the large-scale U.S. naval transport ship *Regulus*, which departed from a military port in the state of Washington of the United States, entered Pusan carrying several hundreds of troops, a number of helicopters, 1,200 tanks, and military vehicles. On 15 February, the *Blue Ridge*, the flagship of the U.S. 7th Fleet, which comprises 80 various ships and vessels, more than 400 airplanes, and 60,000 naval and marine troops, sneaked into Inchon for this war exercise. The carrier combat corps belonging to the U.S. 7th Fleet is advancing toward the sea zone of the Korean peninsula. On 21 February, troops of the U.S. 25th Infantry Division arrived at the Kimhae Air Force Base as the first unit of the U.S. Army infantry and moved to Chunchon.

The South Korean puppet army also began various exercises from 6 February including a command post exercise. The U.S. side is carrying out a large-scale war exercise against us, mobilizing vast troops with which they can conduct a total war.

Synchronized with the recent beginning of the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise, the U.S. imperialists are further strengthening aerial espionage acts by infiltrating the SR-71 high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane into the territorial airspace of our country. Because of the adventurous "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise conducted by the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppet clique, in our country, today, the North-South dialogue was, in the end, suspended and the tense situation is being heightened.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors are conducting the adventurous "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise, thus promoting the danger of a new war in our country in such a manner. This is a challenge to all the Korean people and the world's peace-loving peoples, constitutes a grave threat against peace in Asia and the world in general, and is an act running counter to the UN decision proclaiming this year as the Year of International Peace.

The senior member of our side said: The U.S. side is conducting the provocative "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise against our side, bringing large-scale new-type weapons, operational materiel, and combat forces into South Korea. This is a wanton violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement. The U.S. side is violating the Preamble and Paragraph 12 of the Armistice Agreement. The Preamble of the Armistice Agreement stipulates that the objective of establishing a Korean armistice is to ensure a complete cessation of hostilities and of armed acts in Korea until a final peaceful settlement is achieved, and Paragraph 12 of this agreement stipulates that all armed forces of the ground, naval, and air force will be ordered to completely cease all hostilities in Korea and that this will be ensured. However, the U.S. side has increased the danger of a war on the Korean peninsula, has endangered the Korean armistice, and has promoted grave obstacles to the peaceful solution of the Korean question by conducting a war exercise through mobilizing large-scale forces. This clearly shows that the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise is a violation of the Preamble and Paragraph 12 of the Armistice Agreement.

The U.S. side is also wantonly violating item C of Paragraph 13 of the Armistice Agreement which points out that the introduction of reinforcing military personnel from outside of Korea will be ceased and that only the rotation of units and personnel, the arrival in Korea of personnel on a temporary duty basis, and the return to Korea of personnel after a short period of leave outside of Korea shall be permitted.

Forces scores of thousands strong which the U.S. side has brought into South Korea to conduct the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise are not personnel on rotation, personnel on a temporary duty basis, or personnel returning from short periods of leaving outside of Korea.

Accordingly, the U.S. introduction of numerous troops for the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise is a violation of item C, Paragraph 13 of the Armistice Agreement. In addition, the U.S. side is wildly violating item D, Paragraph 13 of the Armistice Agreement as well, which defines the cessation of the introduction of operational aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition from outside of Korea, and that operational aircraft, armored vehicles, weapons, and ammunition which are destroyed, damaged, worn out, or used up during the period of the armistice may be replaced on a piece-for-piece basis of the same effectiveness and the same type.

The nuclear-laden aircraft carrier, all kinds of combat warships, nuclear-laden aircraft, all kinds of missiles, tanks and large-caliber guns, and other mass destruction weapons and modern war means being dragged into South Korea for the joint military exercise by the U.S. side are not a piece-for-piece replacement nor a replacement of the same type made in accordance with the requirement of the Armistice Agreement. Therefore, the U.S. introduction of numerous modern weapons and operational equipment into South Korea for the joint military exercise is a wild violation of item D, Paragraph 13 of the Armistice Agreement.

Thus, staging the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise through the mobilization of huge armed forces by the U.S. side is a wild violation of the Preamble, Paragraph 12, and items C and D of Paragraph 13 of the Korean Armistice Agreement.

The senior member of our side sternly denounced that according to all the facts, the U.S. imperialists are indeed wild destroyers and disturbers of the Korean Armistice Agreement, criminals who have made North-South dialogue be suspended and disturbers of peace who gravely threaten the peace of Korea and the world.

By so doing, he strongly protested the staging of the offensive military exercise commotions against us by the U.S. side by introducing numerous new-type weapons, operational equipment, and combat troops into South Korea by wildly violating the Armistice Agreement.

In addition, the senior member of our side strongly demanded to the U.S. side that the reckless war exercise be stopped unconditionally and at once, the Armistice Agreement be honored, and all illegally introduced aggression armed forces be withdrawn without delay.

The meeting is continuing.

Pyongyang Further Reports

SK070810 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0308 GMT 7 Mar 86 *pk*

[Text] The 434 MAC meeting is now being held in Panmunjom. At the meetings, major General Yi Tae-ho, senior member of our side, exposed the fact that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise that the U.S. imperialists are now staging is an offensive operational exercise and a nuclear war exercise for aggression against the northern half of our republic. The fact that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise that the U.S. imperialists have staged every year ever since 1976 is an offensive operational exercise to attack the northern half of our republic has already been laid bare by the U.S. imperialists.

While commanding the "Team Spirit-83" joint military exercise on the spot, Sennewald, who was the then commander of the U.S. forces occupying South Korea, openly said that even the deep interior of North Korea could be attacked if necessary.

Inspecting this military exercise, the person in authority in South Korea also said: The past exercises were passive ones aimed at mainly defense purposes, whereas the exercise this time has become a positive, offensive exercise with attacking operations as its basis.

Laroque, retired U.S. Navy rear admiral, said: The "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise, in which the aircraft carrier Enterprise is participating, is being joined by the U.S. Strategic Command for the first time, and this exercise simulates a nuclear war.

Our side's senior member said that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, being an offensive operational exercise and a nuclear war exercise to launch a preemptive attack against the northern half of the republic, has been proven precisely by the composition of its armaments and equipment and the content of its operations. He also indicated: The "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise is being participated in by the nuclear-powered attack aircraft carrier Midway; various types of strategic bombers and fighter-bombers, including B-52s, F-111s, F-16s, and F-15s, which are capable of carrying nuclear weapons; nuclear missiles; long-range artillery pieces capable of firing nuclear shells; and various types of ground, sea, and aerial nuclear strike means.

The B-52 strategic bombers flying from Anderson Air Force Base on Guam are armed with 12 cruise missiles each. These B-52 strategic bombers are meant to launch a nuclear attack against designated targets in the northern half of the Republic in accordance with the final instructions through the communications base in Tokorozawa, Japan.

It is a known fact that F-111 variable-wing fighters from Carolina [as heard] air base in California, the United States; F-4E fighters from Hickam Air Base in Hawaii; F-15 fighter-bombers from Kadena Air Base on Okinawa; and F-16 fighter-bombers from Kunsan Air Base in South Korea, which have been mobilized in the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise every year, are all nuclear-armed planes.

The aircraft carrier Midway from the U.S. 7th Fleet, which is to participate in the current "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise, carries more than 40 nuclear bombs, each equivalent to the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan. Because of this, the aircraft carrier has been referred to as a floating nuclear base.

Those 155-mm howitzers, 8-inch howitzers, and Lance missiles that the U.S. imperialist aggression forces have dragged into South Korea are also the lethal weapons of mass destruction capable of firing neutron shells.

Furthermore, the U.S. Strategic Command, the basic mission of which is to command a nuclear war, has participated in the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise since 1983. This fact vividly shows that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is an attack exercise and a nuclear exercise against us. The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise has earnestly staged operational exercises simulating a nuclear preemptive attack against the northern half of the republic. The basic content of the amphibious operation exercise which the U.S. side has staged every year at sea off Pohang is to occupy the major ports of the opposite side and to penetrate in depth.

They would not have B-52 strategic bombers -- said to be one of the three major pillars of strategic weapons -- by mobilizing them from Guam even by aerial refueling, as well as aircraft carriers laden with various sorts of nuclear weapons, participating in this landing operation just to conduct exercises involving firing cannon and dropping bombs without seeking a preemptive nuclear strike.

It is clear to everyone that such a large-scale three-dimensional landing operational exercise is an offensive operational exercise, not a defensive one.

Needless to say, surprise river-crossing operations which the U.S. side conducts on the Han River every year are also aimed at occupying the entire area of the northern half of the republic by crossing our rivers by surprise. The U.S. side has deployed all land forces and operational materiel, including nuclear weapons, which were mobilized from overseas or in South Korea, near the Military Demarcation Line in the central front north of Chunchon and is conducting an offensive operational exercise there.

By applying an operational concept called air-land battles in recent years throughout this area, they have carried out annihilation operations by dealing preemptive nuclear strikes through mobilizing Lance missiles, whose range is as far as 110 kilometers; 155-mm howitzers; and 8-inch cannon. They also have conducted aerial attack practice exercises involving nuclear strikes against our frontline areas and rear areas with B-52, F-16, and F-15 aircraft.

The U.S. side is conducting exercises involving harrassing the rear, which aim at destroying our major cities, harbors, and industrial facilities by even deploying a Green Beret unit that mainly has the mission of carrying out destruction operations against the opposing side's rear and that carries special atomic destruction bombs.

These facts clearly and unrefutedly show that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise which the U.S. side is conducting is a comprehensive preliminary war and a test nuclear war designed to launch an all-out invasion against the northern half of the republic indiscriminately on the frontline and the rear on a three-dimensional basis from the air, the land, and the sea by mobilizing nuclear forces, conventional forces, and electronic devices. Nevertheless, the U.S. side is babbling as if this provocative "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is an annual defensive exercise. The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, which the U.S. side has conducted for more than 10 years, is not aimed at defense but proceeds from the U.S. imperialists' Asian strategy aimed at realizing global conquest and is a byproduct of their nuclear war policy.

If it can be said that the U.S. imperialists -- who from long ago have closely inspected the Korean peninsula, which is located in a militarily and geographically important position on the Asian continent -- provoked a war of aggression against the northern half of the republic in the 1950's, choosing Korea as a test site for a showdown for global conquest. Then they have accelerated preparations for provoking a nuclear war by openly declaring in the 1970's that South Korea is a frontline defensive area and by openly declaring in the 1980's that the Korean peninsula is a test ground for a confrontation of strength and that South Korea is the frontline in its global strategy. This is a matter known to the whole world.

The United States, which has chosen the Korean peninsula as the ignition point of a nuclear war, long ago mapped out a plan to wage a nuclear war against the northern half of the republic and has unhesitatingly babbled about the use of nuclear weapons. On 23 April 1977, U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown stated that the United States had already mapped out an emergency plan for a nuclear war in Korea, and that the U.S. emergency plan includes a plan to use tactical nuclear weapons.

Even in the White House nuclear war exercise, which continued for 3 days from 1 March 1982 in the basement operations room of the White House, the Korean peninsula was selected as a target of nuclear attack. Subsequently, the U.S. President said that the possibility of using nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula during a time of emergency had not been ruled out. In addition, Meyer, then U.S. Army chief of staff, said that nuclear weapons would be used in Korea during a time of emergency, and U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger said that a nuclear attack had to be carried out against North Korea.

In accordance with such a nuclear war policy and in accordance with a plan for it, the U.S. imperialists have introduced some 1,000 nuclear bombs, nuclear warheads, and nuclear mines into South Korea, and have deployed them there. In addition, they are said to have introduced even special atomic destruction bombs and neutron bombs, called a weapon of the devils of the 20th century.

Coincidentally, the U.S. imperialists replaced the 105-mm howitzers of the U.S. troops in South Korea with 155-mm howitzers capable of firing neutron bombs, and have replaced the F-4D fighter-bombers, which used to be the main aircraft of the U.S. Air Force, with F-16 fighter-bombers, aircraft for carrying neutron bombs. They have already deployed as many as 48 of this aircraft. In addition, the U.S. imperialists have established an aerial electronic monitoring station fulfilling the function of directing and monitoring a nuclear war in Taegu, and are planning to replace the communications with the nuclear strategic command as well as with optical-fiber submarine cable in postulating a nuclear war.

Still not satisfied, the U.S. imperialists are scheming to introduce Pershing-2 medium-range missiles and cruise missiles in the future, and even move B-52 strategic bombers to South Korea.

In 1982 the U.S. imperialists replaced the previous frontal defense strategy with South Korea as a center with a new offense strategy with a pre-emptive nuclear strike as its basis. They have continued to seek its practical completion.

As a result, the tactical "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, for which some 40,000 troops and conventional weapons were mobilized in the early stage, has now expanded to a strategic nuclear war exercise in the recent years, mobilizing a huge force of 200,000-odd troops and nuclear war means.

Thus, through the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise staged so far, the U.S. offense strategy has practically reached a stage of completion. At the same time, its aggressive short-term nuclear war strategy is already reaching the stage of implementation.

The senior member of our side said that all these facts fully show how rampageous the U.S. imperialist aggressors are to ignite a new war, a nuclear war, in Korea. He emphasized that the U.S. imperialists must stop the aggressive "Team Spirit" joint military exercise at once, and must withdraw from South Korea, taking along their forces of aggression and all lethal weapons, including nuclear weapons.

The meeting is continuing.

DEATH OF ROK WORKERS IN 'TEAM SPIRIT' CONDEMNED

SK070141 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT 5 Mar 86

[NODONG SINMUN 6 March commentary: "A Tragic Incident Caused by a Game of Playing With Fire"]

[Text] According to UPI news reports from Seoul, five South Korean workers, who had been forcibly driven into the war exercise, are reported to be missing at sea at a time when the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is being conducted frenziedly.

These men reportedly have met such a tragic end while working on a floating dock in the waters off Kangnung, 500 meters from the shore, as part of an exercise for transporting fuel to the land which, in turn, was part of the "Team Spirit-86" military exercise staged by the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

While babbling about investigating into the cause of the incident for fear of public opinion regarding the South Korean laborers whom they have submerged in the dark sea, bosses of the U.S. troops of aggression nevertheless decided to continue the fuel transfer exercise. The crimes committed by the U.S. imperialist murderers, who are sacrificing the South Korean people as victims in an adventurous war exercise for the invasion of all of Korea and Asia, cannot be tolerated.

The collective tragic incident befallen to the South Korean laborers makes it hard for the people to suppress indignation over the treacherous acts of traitor Chon Tu-hwan, the war errand boy of the U.S. imperialists.

According to what has been reported, these five laborers were civilians who were employed by U.S. military bases at the time of their death. As is known, traitor Chon Tu-hwan has unscrupulously offered the whole land to the troops of aggression as a site for war exercise by following its U.S. imperialist masters' war policy.

Because of the annual "Team Spirit" war exercise, fishing zones in the east, west, and south seas of South Korea have been turned into a stage for naval operations and landing operations and several hundreds of thousands of chongbo of rice paddies and fields as well as forests have been devastated.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is running riot in training the South Korean puppet army--whose number is twice as high as the number of the U.S. imperialist troops of aggression mobilized in the recent years' "Team Spirit" war exercise--and 100,000 reserve forces as cannon fodder. Not content with this, the puppet has sacrificed the lives of the laborers, who are in hard times earning their living, by driving them into the war exercise.

How can such an antinational traitor as traitor Chon Tuhwan who unscrupulously offers even the lives of the people, let alone the skies, land, and seas, at the request of his U.S. imperialist masters, be forgiven?

The incident has occurred in the development stage of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. This makes it impossible for anyone to predict what will happen in the stage of a frenzied actual climax of the joint military exercise. In view of the "Team Spirit" war exercise, which has been conducted 10 times to date, never once has it failed to threaten the lives and property of the people.

Commenting on a river-crossing operation conducted in the upper reaches of the Pukhan River, a Japanese magazine (?KUNJI MINRON) wrote: When a ferry boat filled with children, students of a girl middle school across the river, was approaching the middle of the river, combined forces troops in about 12 rubber rafts rushed toward the opposite end of the river, exploding a smoke shell in front of them. The school children were embroiled in the war exercise. Large-size transportation vehicles were gathered in the playground of the school and helicopters flying in low altitude repeated attacks in support of the unit crossing the river.

The middle school stood in the middle of a site embroiled in the war exercise. We observed such a scene from time-to-time while covering the exercise. The Chon Tu-hwan ring, which, while pulling the U.S. imperialists' war chariots, runs over the people as victim of the war chariots will never be able to avoid the denunciation of the people.

The crime of the "Team Spirit" war exercise does not lie only in having exacerbating tension on the Korean peninsula, in having suspended the dialogue, and in having led the situation to the brink of war.

This war exercise, which is a nuclear test war aimed at attacking the northern half of the republic, has been inflicting disasters on the South Korean people from the very beginning. It is beyond imagination what kind of sacrifice the people in the North and South will be forced to suffer from when this war exercise is transformed into an operation of invasion against the northern half and when the nuclear clouds explode over the heads of the people.

For their own survival and that of the nation, the South Korean people will struggle more vigorously against the policy of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring and against the "Team Spirit" military exercise.

CHON'S 'DOUBLE-DEALING' POLITICAL TACTICS EXPOSED

SK060435 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0849 GMT 1 Mar 86

[NODONG SINMUN 1 March commentary: "Why Are They Trembling in Uneasiness?"]

[Text] The move of South Korean dictators has attracted the people's attention. According to a REUTER news report from Seoul, the South Korean puppets have announced that they will stop the arrest of politicians to ease the strained political situation. Figures from the opposition party and off-stage figures, who were arrested in connection with the signature collection campaign, have been released, and the action of placing Kim Tae-chung under house arrest has been lifted.

The dictator said that he would instruct the police not to lock the headquarters of the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP] and of the Council for Promotion of Democracy [CPD]. On the occasion of the 5th anniversary of his taking office, Chon Tu-hwan staged the farce of parole for prisoners.

Prior to this, on 24 February, traitor Chon Tu-hwan suddenly held talks at Chongwadae with the representatives of three political parties. Referring to important state affairs by 1988, he said that he will study the issue of constitutional revision for the time being by forming a special committee for the Constitution, that the Constitution might be revised in 1989, and that the DJP will make a pledge with regard to this. This creates an impression that traitor Chon Tu-hwan has abandoned the bloodstained sword of fascism. However, this is not the case. Chon Tu-hwan is a fascist maniac who far surpasses the Yusin dictator, and it is inconceivable that he will abandon the sword of fascism.

If traitor Chon Tu-hwan has come to adopt a policy of smile, this shows that his position has become very difficult. We can cite many reasons for this. The South Korean situation, which is on the verge of exploding, has made the puppets uneasy. The South Korean people have shown a strong move against traitor Chon Tu-hwan's fascist iron-fist rule and his maneuvers to take office for the second time. They have come up with a Sammin slogan calling for achieving national reunification, for liberating the masses, and for achieving democracy. This implies that they have totally denied the Chon Tu-hwan regime and his ruling system.

While demanding constitutional revision for the direct election of the president, the opposition and off-stage democratic forces have risen in the 10-million signature collection campaign. Supporting the proposal of off-stage forces, students have joined the signature collection campaign. Although the Chon Tu-hwan ring, by instructing the entire police to assume an emergency alert posture, has committed all sorts of outrageous acts in assaulting and blocking the headquarters of the opposition party and the CPD, in simultaneously assaulting 129 universities, in placing under house arrest democrats, including Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam, and those who signed for constitutional revision, and in arresting them, the signature collection campaign has not been suspended -- it has expanded to local areas.

In particular, the antigovernment struggle will, no doubt, explosively be stepped up with the closing of the student vacation and with the start of the new semester as the momentum.

On top of this, ominous news reports have come from outside of South Korea. After making a mockery of the destiny of the people with bayonets by resorting to foreign forces, Duvalier of Haiti and Marcos of the Philippines, atrocious dictators, have been rejected and banished by the people in less than a month. The puppet traitor can predict what will become of his own destiny when, stimulated by this incident, students and democratic forces redouble their strength and rise.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan's sudden change in attitude and his babbling about lifting, about release, and about talks are tricks designed to overcome the exigent ruling crisis. This is shown by the gibberish of the puppet minister of culture and public information on 27 February. He said that students are trying to use the chaotic political situation in the Philippines and the downfall of the Marcos regime as a model for their action strategy and that they should not act in concert with rumors and the prevailing atmosphere. The puppet has not abandoned his sword. Instead, he has transformed himself into a person using double-dealing tactics by holding in one hand a bundle of deception.

Puppet Chon Tu-hwan said that the Constitution might actually be revised in 1989. Thus, he revealed his true intention. The South Korean people are demanding that the presidential election be conducted in 1988 under a direct election system. They are demanding constitutional revision. Why does dictator Chon Tu-hwan desperately refuse to revise the Constitution while saying that he will step down from the seat of power in 1988 in a peaceful manner? This is a trick designed to pave the way toward helping the rascal to take office for a second time by practicing black art or to achieve the transfer of power within the DJP.

While pretending that he will abandon the sword, the puppet has continuously fettered politicians from the opposition party by describing them as corrupt and as rapists. He has imprisoned and persecuted those involved in violence committed in the National Assembly. How cruel is the suppression of patriotic students on charges of shouting for independence, democracy, and reunification! Nothing has changed as far as traitor Chon Tu-hwan's desire for power and the nature of the murderous, dictatorial maniac are concerned.

As a matter of fact, the recent transformation of the dictator wearing a sword was invented by the United States. Having failed to militarily back up the dictatorial regime in the Philippines, the United States has instigated its stooge to use the policy of appeasement, fearing that the last colony attained to the continent will perish as a result of the development of a similar situation in South Korea. This shows that the United States and the Chon Tu-hwan ring, its stooge, are very uneasy about the development of the current situation in South Korea. However, no matter how eagerly the Chon Tu-hwan ring may resort to maneuvers to appease and deceive the people, it will be unable to suppress the people's resistance.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan's crime is too enormous to win popularity. At the very moment traitor Chon Tu-hwan immersed Kwangju in a sea of blood by massacring tens of thousands of innocent residents in accordance with the U.S. imperialists' directive, he was judged by history, being sternly denounced by the fellow countrymen and the conscientious people of the world. The filthy nature of traitor Chon Tu-hwan as a fascist lunatic who maintains military dictatorship after usurping power with bayonets and guns and as a national butcher who bestially massacred the people aspiring for democracy and reunification and his bloody crimes cannot be concealed by anything.

Seeing through the Chon Tu-hwan clique's maneuvers of appeasement and deception, the opposition figures in South Korea have raised the banner of revolt. Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam flatly rejected the puppets' appeasement maneuvers, noting that they are not worth consideration.

The NKDP also revealed that it will continue the signature collection campaign for constitutional revision. In the 1960's, the South Korean students and people destroyed the Syngman Rhee puppet regime. In the 1970's, they drove the Yusin system of the puppet Pak Chong-hui to a downfall. In the 1980's, they will overthrow the Chon Tu-hwan clique by waging a courageous antifascist struggle for democracy.

The Philippine situation has taught us the lesson that if the people struggle in unity, they can overthrow a fascist regime. The U.S. imperialist aggressors ran amok to maintain the Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines. However, their maneuvers were useless in the wake of the people's resistance. The fascist regime, which is rejected by the people, will only face downfall. The beacon of the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and antifascist struggle for democracy has already risen and the struggle is spreading like wildfire throughout South Korea.

The Chon Tu-hwan clique should stop pursuing the extension of power by employing the double-dealing tactics of threat and deception and should step down from power in accordance with the demands of the people.

MINJU CHOSON FORESEES CHON 'APPROACHING DESTRUCTION'

SK020956 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Pyongyang, March 2 (KCNA) -- MINJU CHOSON Sunday comments on the desperate effort of traitor Chon Tu-hwan to keep away the impact of the Philippines from South Korea, deadly afraid of his collapse like pro-U.S. fascist dictator Marcos.

A signed commentary says: A few days ago, the puppet Chon Tu-hwan let his underlings of the "Democratic Justice Party" [DJP] publish a "commentary," which said some people were talking "irresponsible words" about the Philippine situation and it could not be construed otherwise than an attempt to "confuse the reality by spreading groundless rumors."

Marcos was toppled because he harshly suppressed the people, resorting to brutal fascist dictatorship, and the people fought undauntedly against the fascist dictatorship. Corruption, depraved election, social disorder and worsening people's living in Philippines were unavoidable products of the Marcos dictatorial rule. So, if one wants to talk about Marcos' fall, he should not forget mentioning his fascist dictatorship and the people's massive anti-dictatorship struggle for democracy.

But the puppets keep silence on these points. It is because they are afraid that the South Korean people should rise up more daringly in the massive anti-dictatorship struggle for democracy following the Filipino people who toppled Marcos.

The puppets revealed their uneasiness when they grumbled threateningly that "some people" were talking "irresponsible words" and spreading "groundless rumors."

It is an immovable truth that a dictator who resorts to bayonet rule and fascist rule, clinging to the coattails of the foreign forces, estranged from the people, are doomed to destruction.

The "commentary" of the "DJP" group shows that the Chon Tu-hwan group is quite restless, foreseeing its approaching destruction in the fall of Marcos.

CHON'S MEETING WITH PARTY REPRESENTATIVES NOTED

SK270549 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0520 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 27 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today comments on the "talks among representatives of three political parties" called by traitor Chon Tu-hwan on February 24, at which he performed some juggle for extending his power.

At the "talks" the dictator drivelled that "the constitution could be amended" in 1989 after "national events" were held by 1988 and "special committees on the constitution" would be set up in the "National Assembly" and "under the direct control of the president" to "study and examine" the "change of the constitution". The author of the commentary says:

He called for putting off "constitutional amendment" under the pretext of the Olympic Games scheduled for the autumn of 1988, his "term of office" ending in March that year. This is no more than a smokescreen laid down by him to throw a bridge in 1988 "for a success of the Olympic Games" and drive armored cars on it for the expansion of power. Lurking behind this smokescreen is the sinister intention to replace the people's demand for constitutional amendment with "national assembly debate" on it and set up "government"-controlled "special committees on the constitution" to while away the time with the ostensible study and examination of "change of the constitution" and solidify the foundation of dictatorship in the meantime for the extension of the power of Chon Tu-hwan the puppet and the "Democratic Justice Party" clan.

Recalling the utterances of traitor Chon Tu-hwan that day that the "Democratic Justice Party" to which he "belongs" would be able to "promise to the people" as a "political party" on the "question of changing the constitution" in 1989, the paper says: this means that this question should be taken up after the extension of the power of his group by obtaining one more "7 year term" under the present constitution in 1988. In other words, this is tantamount to his declaration that there would be no change in the constitution any time.

The "commitment on the change of the constitution in 1989 is little different from the earlier "commitments" which have all proved to be an empty talk, the paper warns: with no jugglery for the extension of power can the Chon Tu-hwan group escape the same doom as the preceding dictators met.

KANG SONG-SAN MEETS FIDEL CASTRO IN MOSCOW

SK060501 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, March 4 (KCNA) -- Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers, on March 4 met in Moscow Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council.

Kang Song-san conveyed warm greetings of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to respected Comrade Fidel Castro.

Comrade Fidel Castro expressed deep thanks for this and asked Kang Song-san to forward his cordial regards to Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The conversation proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

EVENTS OF KIM YONG-NAM VISIT TO INDONESIA REPORTED

SK060507 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Pyongyang, March 6 (KCNA) -- Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and his party visited Indonesia from February 28 to March 4. During the visit Kim Yong-nam paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja and met and had a conversation with Vice-President Umar Wirahadikusumah in a friendly atmosphere. And Kim Yong-nam separately met and had conversations with Amir Machmud, speaker of the House of People's Representatives, the minister-coordinator for political affairs and security and the minister of information.

Kim Yong-nam and his party were invited to a banquet arranged by the Indonesian foreign minister. They visited the Bogor Botanical Garden.

KIM CHONG-IL INSPECTS COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

SK060111 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] On 4 March, Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, gave working guidance to the newly built international satellite communications center and the construction site of the patriots' cemetery.

Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and responsible secretary of Pyongyang municipal party and chairman of the Pyongyang People's Committee; Comrade Kye Ung-tae, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee; directors of departments of the WPK Central Committee and persons concerned accompanied them.

Comrade Kim Chong-il gave working-guidance to the international satellite communications center which was newly built in Sadong district of Pyongyang. Inspecting the facilities of the satellite communications center which is being organized with the most modern facilities including a parabolic antenna, facilities for transmitting and receiving television, telegraph, telephone, telephoto, and telex, Comrade Kim Chong-il expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the modern international satellite communications center has been excellently built in a short period of time.

Stressing that the international satellite communications center plays a very important role in strengthening relations with many countries of the world through the exchange of telegraph, telephone, and news materials, Comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out that the utility rate should be enhanced through proper management and operation.

Noting that communications are the nerves of the nation, Comrade Kim Chong-il said that we should always direct deep attention to expanding and developing them. He put forth concrete tasks and methods for further modernizing the communication facilities.

Following this, Comrade Kim Chong-il gave working-guidance to the construction site of the Patriots' Cemetery in Sinmiri. Acquainting himself with the management of the construction while touring the construction site, Comrade Kim Chong-il noted that the cemetery was located in a very scenic spot. Noting that the gate of the cemetery was excellently constructed, Comrade Kim Chong-il highly appraised the constructors for having carried out a lot of work in a short period of time since the construction began.

Comrade Kim Chong-il stressed that since the patriots' cemetery is an everlasting building which was constructed to glorify the patriots who had fallen while struggling for national liberation, socialist construction, and the cause of national reunification, we should permanently preserve it. He said that we should properly build structures and carry out the arrangement of zones in accordance with the surrounding natural scenic beauty.

That day, Comrade Kim Chong-il reviewed the designs for the ground buildings of the Nampo Lockgate, various indoor gymnasiums to be built in the Ankol Valley of Mangyongdae, silicate living houses, and major buildings squares, and parks in Pyongyang.

Seeing the designs, Comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out that we should excellently construct various buildings, including the ground buildings of the Nampo Lockgate and indoor gymnasiums, making the best of their characteristics, to be monumental buildings of the era of the Workers' Party. In order to do so, he put forth tasks to research and perfect these designs.

Comrade Kim Chong-il said that the construction of living houses in major cities including Pyongyang and the places where provincial and county offices are located, as well as in rural communities, should be carried out in accordance with modern taste and in such a way as to eliminate even a slight inconvenience to the people's living. He stressed that functionaries in the construction sector should carry out more qualitatively the design and construction of living houses by further considering the people's needs.

He said that since Pyongyang, a city of revolution, was built magnificently and splendidly as a modern city, we should more excellently carry out the beautification and management of the city, stressing proper management of the city streets and parks.

Comrade Kim Chong-il saw various kinds of medicines made of medical plants abundant in our country at the Korea Mannyon Public Health Company and highly praised the functionaries of the company for their excellent achievements. He put forth tasks for increasing the production of medical supplies and for more excellently carrying out medical services.

WORKSHOPS PRODUCE SPECIAL AUTOMATION APPLIANCES

SK050429 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Pyongyang, March 4 (KCNA) -- The October 5 general automation works has recently manufactured various kinds of special automation appliances and new automation elements. Located south of the central part of Pyongyang, the works plays an important role in developing the nation's electronic and automation industry, yielding splendid fruits.

The works was founded in February 1951. Its predecessor was a small electric machine repair shop.

Up to date since his first on-the-spot guidance to the works on October 5, 1955, the great leader President Kim Il-song has given on-the-spot guidance to it on many occasions in order to indicate a direction and ways of turning it into a comprehensive electric machine producer. He sent modern equipment and materials needed for its reconstruction on an expansion basis and many samples of products.

The workers of the general works produced the first trial electric motor early in 1955. They turned out over 1,400 motors in 1955. Before and after 1960, more than 10 workshops started operating to mass-produce electric appliances needed for various domains of the national economy including motors, distributing boards and various kinds of gauges.

During the second 7-year plan (1978-84), the works sent distributing boards, motors, rectifiers, gauges and elements to the iron and steel production bases including the Kim Chaek and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes and to the construction sites of extracting and chemical industries, railway and harbour construction, etc.

In the last 10 years the modernization of the production and technical processes has been actively hastened and production has rapidly grown with the help of more than 7,000 technical innovation proposals introduced into production at the works. The works now produces over 180 kinds of automation elements and electric daily necessities.

SUNCHON VINALON FACTORY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SK050427 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Pyongyang, March 4 (KCNA) -- A large-scale vinalon factory is being constructed on modern lines in Sunchon district of Korea. The Sunchon vinalon complex covering a vast area on the bank of the River Taedong in its middle reaches will have a vinalon production process with a rated capacity of 100,000 tons and processes producing carbide, chemical fertilizer, methanol and over 30 kinds of chemicals and auxiliary medicines.

A thermal power plant, nearly 50 km-long waste water pipe and a large long-distance belt conveyer and others will also be built there.

Vinalon is a chemical fibre made from limestone and anthracite rich in our country. Sunchon district is richly endowed with good-quality limestone and anthracite. More than 50,000 builders and helpers held a meeting recently on the spot to hasten the construction of the complex.

'COOPERATION IN ALL FIELDS' VOWED TO PHILIPPINES

SK070118 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] The government will render "cooperation in all fields" to help the new Philippine Government in its drive for national reform, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday. Answering reporters' questions, ministry spokesman Kim Hung-su said, "We will do our best to promote cooperation in all fields, in close consultation with the government of President Aquino. We are mindful of the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between our two countries," he said.

He said that the government applauds the new government in Manila for launching wide-ranging reforms in politics, economy, the social system and other fields, in keeping with the spirit of national unity and harmony. "We hope such endeavors of the new government will bear fruit as early as possible," he said.

CHON WARNS OF POSSIBLE DPRK COASTAL INFILTRATION

SK070129 Seoul YONHAP in English 0121 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Pusan, South Korea, March 7 (OANA-YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu hwan said Thursday that various signs have emerged indicating that North Korea is planning to infiltrate coastal areas in the South this year. "To successfully stage this year's Asian Games," Chon said, "the nation should be fully prepared to repel whatever provocations the enemy may unleash." The president made these and other remarks in this southern port city after receiving a briefing from Mayor Chon Chae-chin on the city's major policy programs for this year.

"The three years between now and 1988 will be a crucial period politically, economically and militarily," he added. Korea should avoid turmoil until after 1988, Chon said. "If social unrest arises, it would stagnate the nation's economy and would give North Korea an opportunity to invade the South," he said.

The government should sternly crack down on acts that disrupt legal order to prevent the recurrence of war and to protect the people, Chon said. He also said that ideology education for middle and high school students should be intensified.

EXPECTATIONS OF NORTH-SOUTH SUMMIT TALKS VIEWED

SK060904 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 3 Mar 86 p 2

[Editorial: "Expectations That Talks Between the Highest Authorities of the North and South Will Be Realized This Year"]

[Text] At a time when the North-South dialogue has been suspended as a whole because of North Korea picking a quarrel with us with regard to the "Team Spirit" exercise, a joint military exercise conducted by the Korean and U.S. Armed Forces, mention of talks between the highest authorities of the North and South has attracted keen attention.

The fact that North-South summit talks, which have remained a topic of great headlines but with no detailed explanation to date, were mentioned several times at the beginning of the new year has led some people to believe that behind the scenes progress is in the offing.

The most conspicuous mention about North-South summit talks was made by President Chon Tu-hwan in his speech delivered at a ceremony held on 1 March to mark the 67th anniversary of the 1 March Movement. In his speech, read by the prime minister, President Chon said: I hope the North will show an affirmative attitude toward the proposal for talks between the highest authorities of the North and South, which I have repeatedly called for since 1981. I expect the talks will be realized within the year.

Such a proposal for the North-South summit talks, first put forward by President Chon in 1981, is now attracting great attention at home and abroad, as President Chon once again expressed his hope that it will be realized within the year.

Prior to this, in a report on the new year's projects by the Ministry of National Unification Board, Minister Pak Tong-chin said that he will conduct any kind of dialogue with North Korea in any field so long as the North Korean side shows a sincere and serious attitude toward such a dialogue. He then pledged that he will make positive efforts to have North-South summit talks realized for achieving peace on the Korean peninsula.

In the meantime, speaking on North-South contracts in 1986 in his New Year's address, North Korea's Kim Il-song also called for holding all forms of dialogue between the North and South, including North-South economic talks, Red Cross talks, and parliamentary talks, as well as talks between the highest authorities of the North and South. However, such a vow made on New Year's day turned out to be empty talk, since the North Korean side suspended the North-South dialogue on the pretext of "Team Spirit."

Mentions of talks between the highest authorities of the North and South are an expression of the people's earnest aspirations for advancement in the North-South dialogue and unification as well as an indication of changes in the situation on the Korean peninsula. Although we have no way of knowing when such national aspirations will be realized through the materialization of the talks between the highest authorities of the North and South, we should nevertheless push ahead with meticulous preparations for the materialization of such talks at home and abroad, while sensitively scrutinizing the changing conditions at home and abroad.

In fact, the materialization of talks between the highest authorities of the North and South will be possible only when the various forms of dialogue -- the stage that precedes summit talks -- are held actively, when an atmosphere of mutual trust is sufficiently created, and when the obstacles standing between the North and South have been removed. Thus being the case, the North Korean side, which has suspended the North-South dialogue using the Korea-U.S. joint military exercise as an excuse, should pave the way for the resumption of dialogue and then prepare for talks at a higher level.

The NKDP also called for a direct presidential election under the revised constitution by fall of next year, the peaceful transfer of power and the hosting of the 1988 Seoul Summer Olympics under the leadership of a new government.

Rep. Yi Min-u, NKDP president, and his standing adviser, Kim Yong-sam, announced the timetable for democratization in a joint press conference at NKDP headquarters. If the NKDP's demand that the constitution be revised by 1986 is not met, the NKDP will boycott the 1988 presidential election, according to a six-point declaration issued in the names of Yi Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung. The two Kims serve as co-chairmen of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy.

The timetable also contained demands for the immediate implementation of provincial autonomy, the overhauling of the presidential and parliamentary election laws and the restoration of press freedom. The declaration also demanded the establishment of a caretaker cabinet to ensure fair elections, an immediate halt to the government's suppression of the NKDP's signature-collection campaign to amend the constitution, the immediate release of dissidents and the reinstatement of their civil rights.

In the joint statement, the NKDP described the incumbent government's recent recognition of the need to revise the constitution as a "significant change." It called upon the government and the ruling party to resume sincere negotiations as soon as possible in order to help end the current political confusion.

In recent days, President Chon Tu-hwan has repeatedly assured that his government will hand over power peacefully in 1989.

KNP REJECTS PROPOSAL FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

SK070147 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Mar 86 p 4

[Text] Rep. Kim Yong-chae, floor leader of the second opposition Korea National Party, severely denounced both ruling and first opposition parties for the current political tensions. In a sudden press conference to manifest his party's position on the constitutional amendment issue, he claimed, "The ruling Democratic Justice Party has failed to lead the nation's politics. And, the first opposition New Korea Democratic Party [NDP] is doing nothing but engaging in struggles without making any concessions," he argued. "Now is the time when the two parties have to regain their senses of reason and to show a humble attitude to the people," he said.

During the press meet, he said that the Constitution should be revised before the incumbent President's term ends, supporting the NDP's demand for the revision in 1987.

The remark drew immediate attention from the political world with regard to the recent return home of Kim Chong-pil, former president of the defunct Democratic Republican Party. Kim Chong-pil is having dialogues with leading officers of the KNP, which is composed of former DRP, which is composed of former DRP members, and former leading figures of the disbanded party.

RELIGIOUS GROUP POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OPPOSED

SK070110 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Mar 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Religion vs. Politics"]

[Text] Fundamentally, the ideals of religion coincide with those of liberal democracy being quite conservative, they are alien to radical progressivism, not to mention communism.

Freedom of religion is institutionally guaranteed in all democratic countries. Our country, of course, is no exception. In Korea, religious freedom is not only guaranteed under the Constitution, but also protected with additional law provisions. It must be noted, however, that the nation's basic law calls for a separation of religion and politics.

Here, as elsewhere in the world, the relationship between religion and politics has long been a delicate issue. Sometimes their relationship is harmonious, sometimes conflicting, according to the conditions prevalent at the time. Whether one is religious or not, he cannot ignore the reality facing his country. One can follow one's own religious belief, but it must be based on a broad perspective, not short-sighted prejudice.

We have seen instances where the plausibly sounding outcries of religious people led only to the spoiling of all they had, because they failed to understand the greater contemporary causes. They often prove to be mere victims of the politically oriented schemes of others. The fall of South Vietnam might be one good example.

Now, the signature-collection campaign is still being attempted, despite its clear illegality, by some intransigent oppositionists and radical students. It must be noted that some of the student promoters are advocates of a people's revolutionary concept denying our system of liberal democracy itself. It is, therefore, a pity to see religious people engaging in this blatantly political drive.

They must look squarely at the harsh realities facing us. The nation cannot now afford to engage in wasteful polemics evolving around the issue of constitutional change. We find no reason to change the basic law even before having tested it once.

One should refrain from engaging in such acts mistakenly undertaken in the name of religious freedom. Any misguided political activities by religious people would lead only to social instability that would serve no one's good in the end.

HENG SAMRIN GREETES GORBACHEV ON 55TH BIRTHDAY

BK060655 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0507 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text:] Phnom Penh, 6 Mar (SPK) -- Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee, sent a message wishing good health and longevity to M.S. Gorbachev on his 55th birthday. The message says: We would like to take this opportunity to warmly greet the efforts you have made in carrying out your tasks in order to raise the Soviet people's living standards and build the country along a path of perfecting socialism and communism for universal peace.

May the relations of friendship, close solidarity, and cooperation in every field between our two parties and people last forever, the message concludes.

HUN SEN CONDOLENCES ON DEATH OF SWEDEN'S PALME

BK060834 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0509 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Phnom Penh, 6 Mar (SPK) -- Upon learning of the death of Olof Palme, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Sweden, Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent saddest condolences to Ingvar Carlsson, Swedish acting prime minister. Among other things, the message says:

During his life, Olof Palme spared no efforts to heighten his fatherland's prestige in the international arena and for the Swedish people's happiness. Olof Palme assisted and supported the struggle of the Indochinese people against the war of aggression of U.S. imperialism. As a best friend of the Cambodian people, he supported them in their just cause and assisted them prior to their liberation from the genocidal regime of Pol Pot. Together with peace and progressive forces the world over, the Cambodian people will always engrave in their hearts his resounding achievements. His passing away is a great loss to the Swedish people as well as the Cambodian people, concludes the message.

SOLDIERS KILL SRV CAPTAIN IN PHNOM PENH, JOIN DK

BK050056 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] On 21 February, a group of Cambodian soldiers guarding a bridge in Phnom Penh shot dead a Vietnamese captain. The Cambodian soldiers then fled to join DK guerrillas.

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN MEETS GORBACHEV 3 MARCH

BK060952 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Vientiane, March (OANA-KPL) -- Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and M. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU at their discussion reaffirmed that the Lao PDR and the Soviet Union, on the basis of the principle of settling all problems by peaceful means, are to constantly strive for the strengthening of peace and security in SEA [Southeast Asia] and the Pacific.

Kaysone Phomvihan who headed the Lao delegation at the 27th Congress of the CPSU, met his Soviet counterpart on March 3 in Moscow. General Secretary K. Phomvihan said that the 27th congress is of tremendous significance in the international affairs and to the enrichment of Marxist-Leninism. He stressed on the support of the LPRP for the policy of peace of the Soviet Union as presented at the congress. The Lao leader seized this opportunity to express profound thanks to the party and the Soviet people for their great support to the Lao revolution.

For his part, M. Gorbachev hailed the achievements of the Lao people in building the socialist foundation in Laos and wished the Lao communists success in the preparation for the forthcoming 4th LPRP Congress. The Soviet leader resolutely voiced support to the policy carried out by Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea which aims at attaining the constructive negotiations with the ASEAN member countries -- thereupon SEA can become a zone of peace, stability and good neighbourliness. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN MOURNS PALME'S DEATH

BK060305 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Mar 86

[2 March Message of Condolence from Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of LPDR Council of Ministers, to Ingvar Carlsson, acting prime minister of Sweden on death of Prime Minister Olof Palme]

[Text] To His Excellency Ingvar Carlsson, acting prime minister of Sweden, Stockholm: The Lao Government, people, and myself were very sad to hear of the death of His Excellency Olof Palme, prime minister of Sweden, who was assassinated in Stockholm on 28 February 1986. Olof Palme was an outstanding leader of the Swedish people and a prominent world statesman who persistently struggled for peace, equality, friendship and international cooperation. He made a significant contribution to the movements of struggle against policies of aggression and against the arms race to guard against the danger of destructive nuclear war and for international security.

The death of Olof Palme is a great loss for the Swedish people and has brought sorrow to the Lao people as well as to various peace- and justice-loving nations throughout the world. Olof Palme and Swedish people have provided support and assistance to the just cause of struggle of the Lao people for national liberation in the past as well as for national defense and construction at present. He paid particular attention to the strengthening and development of the friendly relations and cooperation between Sweden and Laos.

At this time of deep sorrow, I would like to express sincere condolences and sympathy to the government and people of Sweden as well as to the bereaved family.

[Signed] Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, Vientiane, 2 March 1986

INCREASED U.S. MILITARY, EMBASSY ACTIVITIES NOTED

BK061339 Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 6 Mar 86 p 9

[Column Entitled "From Buttstock to Bayonet"]

[Text] The American soliders have come to visit Thailand more frequently recently. They can be seen from the mountains to the beach. A U.S. special forces unit, the "Green Berets", is participating in a joint military exercise with a special forces unit of the 2d Special Division in several northern provinces, while a U.S. Navy flotilla is anchored off the Phatthaya beach. Next month, a bigger U.S. Navy flotilla will visit Thailand. Moreover, the Thai Air Force is preparing for a large joint air exercise with the U.S. Air Force in the next 2 months. So they are coming here one after another.

As for the coordination between U.S. Ambassador William Brown and the Thai military, many people have said that the ambassador's personality is impressive to Thai officers. He can read the Thai officers' minds, and has won the hearts of several top "warlords" in the military even though he has been here for only a short time. The U.S. Embassy can be regarded as a major intelligence center, capable of knowing the true situation in the Thai military. It knows who will be transferred and who will be promoted, and has proved on several occasions that its news is fairly "accurate."

EDITORIAL VIEWS ATHIT TERM IN OFFICE, SPECULATION

BK051004 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 4 Mar 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Principle Is More Important Than Individual"]

[Text] As criticism over the proposed extension of his military term continues, General Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander and Army commander, has openly said that he is leaving the decision up to his superiors. However, this issue has gotten much attention from technocrats to the point that they have signed a petition opposing the extension of the supreme commander's military service.

It is important to note that the posts of supreme commander and army commander are normally held by the same person; it is thus feared that ending the practice might have unknown consequences for the country's politics.

Nevertheless, one should not attach excessively high significance to the two posts. Gen Athit himself seems indifferent on whether his term is extended or whether he has to leave and enter politics. The supreme commander -- in a statement worthy of praise -- said he is willing to comply with the official regulations and will step down if his time runs out.

Speculation that ending the military service of the supreme commander and Army commander would bring about a political situation detrimental to national security and stability is not realistic in terms of the country's administration. If we are not too attached to individuals, there will always be people to fill any vacancy in both civilian and military posts, including that of the supreme commander. Attachment to individuals has already led to the failing of many good persons.

We do not believe that this issue is of any importance, because there must be someone to assume every military and civilian post. It is better that we comply with existing administrative and democratic principles.

Any one holding a position must leave when his time is up. There will be someone to succeed the supreme commander in accordance with official regulations. This should not cause any concern because the two positions will continue to exist.

We want to see principles placed above individuals. Attachment to individuals and sycophancy could one day lead our nation to a debacle like those that befell our neighboring countries recently.

FOREIGN MINISTER OPPOSES LAO TRADE EXPANSION

BK070123 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Nong Khai -- Customs Department proposals for more permanent trading points on the Thai-Lao border were rejected yesterday. Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila told provincial officials the time was not right to open border points at Si Chiang Mai District in Nong Khai, Chiang Khan District in Loei and Phibun Mangsahan District in Ubon Ratchathani. But the deputy prime minister said that on specific occasions, border points could be opened with government permission.

Increased quotas of goods for export to Laos were approved: The quota for bicycles will rise from 100 to 1,000, motorcycles from 60 to 100, batteries to 120,000, car batteries from 240 to 600, bicycle tyres from 1,200 to 2,000, bicycle inner tubes from 2,400 to 4,000, motorcycle tyres from 120 to 1,000, car tyres from 30 to 300 and car inner tubes from 60 to 300. Seasoning powder was also in demand.

The right of northeastern governors to authorise sales of goods not exceeding 20,000 baht will remain unchanged.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi said that the amount was appropriate considering there was no limit to the number of transactions carried out per day.

BRIEFS

CAMBODIAN, VIETNAMESE REFUGEE FIGURES -- The Thai-Cambodian Border Security Office has reported that as of 17 February, 13,774 Cambodian refugees and illegal immigrants are living in camps under the supervision of the Joint Operations Center of Supreme Command Headquarters. There are also 360 Cambodian refugees and orphans in Khao Lan Holding Center under the responsibility of the Red Cross council. Meanwhile, from 1 December, 1985, to 31 January, 1986, 183 Vietnamese boat people landed in Muang District of Trat, Muang District of Pattani, Khanon District of Nakhon Si Thammarat, and Phra Khanong District of Bangkok metropolis. Thai authorities have sent these boat people to the Phanat Nikhom Holding Center in Chon Buri and the Songkhla Holding Center in Songkhla Province. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 25 Feb 86 BK]

LE DUAN MESSAGE TO GORBACHEV ON REELECTION

BK061528 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 6 Mar 86

["Text" of 6 March congratulatory message from Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee]

[Text] Respected and beloved Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev:

On the occasion of your reelection as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on behalf of the CPV Central Committee and the working class and people of Vietnam, and on my own I would like to convey my warmest congratulations to you.

I wish you plenty of good health in order to victoriously fulfill the noble task full of responsibilities that the Communist Party and the working class and people of the Soviet Union have entrusted to you.

May the fraternal Soviet people under the leadership of the glorious CPSU, the Central Committee, and the Leninist Political Bureau full of creativity and dynamism victoriously implement the historic resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress, score glorious achievements, and open a great turning point in perfecting the socialist society, further advancing the country on the communist path, comprehensively strengthening the Soviet Union -- the firm and strong fortress of world peace and revolution -- and making great contributions to consolidating and strengthening the socialist community, the international communist and workers movement, and the movements of peace, national independence, and social progress.

May the unshakable fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two parties and peoples of our two countries, which is based on Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, be constantly consolidated and developed!

Please accept my Communist salutations.

HANOI REPORTS CONTENTS OF BORDER TREATY WITH PRK

BK051041 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Dear friends, on 27 December 1985 in Phnom Penh, the SRV and PRK signed a treaty delimiting their common border. The treaty was ratified by the SRV State Council on 30 January 1986 and by the PRK National Assembly on 7 February 1986. On 22 January 1986 in Hanoi the two sides held a ceremony to exchange letters of ratification. Next, we would like to introduce the contents of this important treaty.

Dear friends, the treaty points out in Part I [as heard]: the desire to constantly consolidate and develop the special relationship between Vietnam and Cambodia on the basis of the principles of total equality, respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; to strengthen constantly the militant solidarity and mutual assistance in all respects so as to promote national prosperity and ensure a happy life for the peoples of both countries; and to delimit officially the national border between the SRV and the PRK with the aim of building a common border of lasting peace and friendship.

The treaty has five articles.

Article 1: Pursuant to Article 1 of the treaty on principles for the settlement of border problems between the SRV and the PRK signed on 20 July 1983 and pursuant to the minutes signed by the two governments' delegations to the joint committee on 13 July 1984 and 8 December 1984, the two sides agree to delimit the national land border between the SRV and the PRK along a general north-south line.

Article 1 also specifically mentions the set cross coordinates of the borderline between Vietnam and Cambodia.

Article 2: Pertaining to problems relating to border rivers, springs, and streams, the treaty on national border delimitation between the two countries clearly states: If border rivers, springs, and streams change their course, the borderline will remain as it is, without following the new course unless both sides agree otherwise. Islets and sandbars in border rivers, springs, and streams shall fall under the sovereignty of Vietnam if they are located on the Vietnamese side; and they shall fall under the sovereignty of the PRK if located on the Cambodian side. New islets and sandbars that form after the complete settlement of the borderline shall also be resolved in accordance with the aforementioned principle. In the case of bridges spanning border rivers, springs, and streams, the borderline shall cut across the middle of those bridges, regardless of the position of the borderline along the beds of those rivers, springs, and streams.

Under Article 3, the border delimitation treaty stipulates that the principles for delimiting the sea border in historical waters -- namely the national sea border -- between the SRV and the PRK include the following: The national sea border between the countries originates from the furthestmost point of the land border as found in the 1:100,000- and 1:50,000-scale maps attached to the treaty. The national sea border continues to follow a path to be agreed upon by both sides to ensure the division of islands as stipulated under the agreement on the historical waters of the SRV and the PRK.

Based on the aforementioned principles, the joint committee shall carry out an on-the-spot survey as soon as possible to delimit the national sea border and draft a treaty on national sea border delimitation between the SRV and PRK.

Under Article 4, the treaty on national border delimitation between the two countries clearly states: The two sides agree to set up a joint committee for on-the-spot border delimitation and national border marker planting between the SRV and PRK, which is also known as the joint committee, and entrust it with the tasks of carrying out on-the-spot delimitation of the entire national land border between the two countries, planning the locations of national border markers, officially planting national border markers, preparing a map of the national border between the SRV and the PRK that shows the locations of national border markers, and drafting a final protocol to wind up on-the-spot border delimitation and marker planting.

The final protocol shall serve as an appendix of this treaty. The map of the national border between the SRV and the PRK prepared by the joint committee after finishing on-the-spot border delimitation and marker planting shall supersede the map mentioned in the last part of Article 1 of this treaty.

The joint committee shall begin its activities immediately after this treaty becomes effective and carry out its work in accordance with the plans and agreements adopted by itself; and the joint committee shall terminate its activities upon completion of its tasks as mentioned under Article 4 of this treaty.

Article 5 states: This treaty shall be ratified and become effective beginning on the date when the letters of ratification are exchanged.

NHAN DAN Hails Treaty

OW050821 Hanoi VNA in English 0755 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 5 -- The treaty on border delimitation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea signed recently is a model for the settlement of border questions, comments the daily NHAN DAN today.

The paper highly praises the Kampuchean Government's consistent efforts in implementing the agreements reached by the two countries since the collapse of the genocidal Pol Pot regime such as the agreement on the historical waters signed on July 1982 and the treaty on the principles for settling border problems and an agreement on the border regulations signed on July 1983.

It goes on: "The newly signed treaty delimitates the territories of the two countries on the principles of complete equality and mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and of genuine patriotism combined with proletarian internationalism. It is a sharp refutation of the malicious allegation of the imperialists, expansionists and the other reactionary forces that 'Vietnam plans to annex Kampuchea and Laos' and establish an 'Indochinese Federation'. Together with Vietnam and Laos, Kampuchea has asserted itself as an independent state with the full right to determine its own destiny.

The publication of the treaty also illustrates the policy of Vietnam and Kampuchea to establish good neighbourly relations with all neighbouring countries and to seek a mutually acceptable settlement to the border problem in particular. The border question between Vietnam and Laos has been completely settled, including the planting of border markers on the whole length of the common border, on the basis of equality and mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Now, Vietnam and Kampuchea have signed a treaty on border delimitation. The three fraternal Indochinese countries have set a fine example of how to settle the border question. At the same time, they express their determination to build a borderline of long-standing friendship in the interests of their own countries, and to strengthen continually the time-honoured militant solidarity between the three countries for the sake of peace and security in the region.

"It is easy for the reactionary forces to distort facts and their meaning, but it would not be so easy for them to sign with Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea documents that guarantee mutual respect for the independence and sovereignty of the contracting parties, and non-sovereignty aggression as has been many times proposed by the three Indochinese countries in the past years," the paper concludes.

AUSTRALIAROK PRIME MINISTER ON 5-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

Arrives 6 March

BK060848 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] The South Korean prime minister, Mr No Sin-yong, has arrived in Canberra for a 5-day official visit to Australia. Mr No lunched with his Australian counterpart, Mr Hawke, before beginning talks with government ministers and officials.

South Korea is Australia's fourth largest market and Radio Australia's Canberra office says Mr No's discussions are expected to concentrate on trade. The South Korean Government has indicated concern about the trade balance which is running 4 to 1 in Australia's favor. Mr No is also expected to press for changes in Australia's anti-dumping rules and for the restoration of preferences for South Korean steel products.

Hawke on Human Rights

HK061216 Hong Kong AFP in English 1200 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Canberra, March 6 (AFP) -- Prime Minister Bob Hawke told his South Korean counterpart No Sin-yong here Thursday there was concern in Australia about recent restrictions on political activity in South Korea, Australian officials said.

Mr Hawke told Mr No at a luncheon he gave for him on the first day of an official five-day visit that it was important that there be continued stable political development in South Korea. "We hold it as an article of faith that a political system that inspires participation and support is not something which detracts from national security," Mr Hawke said.

Australian officials said Mr Hawke went on to raise the issue of human rights during later private discussions with Mr No. The sources linked Mr Hawke's public comments with his further remarks in private. The Australian leader reportedly told his visitor that there was concern in Australia about recent restrictions on political activity in South Korea.

Mr Hawke told Mr No the government had received representations from some individual human rights organizations in Australia about the alleged infringement of human rights in South Korea. He had suggested that these representations would be taken up again during official level discussions between Australia and South Korea tomorrow.

The South Korean opposition is demanding a constitutional amendment making for direct presidential elections before 1988, against the government's proposed date of 1989.

The Seoul government has attempted to dampen the campaign by trying to seize rosters of a petition drawn up to press the case and has warned that anyone signing it could be arrested.

Mr Hawke told Mr No he was speaking as a friend, the officials said. Mr No had responded "without heat" but firmly, they said.

He had emphasized the cultural and historical differences between South Korea and Western countries and the problems imposed by the tense political situation on the divided Korean Peninsula. The South Korean premier added that South Korea was on the road to democratisation at its own pace.

The officials said Mr No had responded in a non-controversial way, but "pretty firmly" when he had spoken of cultural and historical differences.

LIBYAN MILITARY RECRUITMENT EFFORTS PROTESTED

BK050519 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs has called in the head of the Libyan Embassy in Canberra -- known as the Libyan People's Bureau -- to protest against an attempt to recruit volunteers for the Libyan Armed Forces.

The acting minister for foreign affairs, Senator Evans, says the bureau's secretary, Mr (Shavan Gasud), was called in on his instruction. Senator Evans says the bureau released a press release last month calling for volunteers for what was described as an international people's front. The front would fight what was referred to as imperialism, zionism, nazism, and American aggression.

The Department of Foreign Affairs told the Libyan diplomat that the action was a breach of the Crimes Act which the Australian Government viewed with deep concern.

Senator Evans said the Libyan People's Bureau was reminded of its obligation to conform the Australian law and that there would be no repetition of the incident.

The opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr Peacock, earlier called on the government to close two offices run by the bureau because of the press release.

ANTARA ON NAKASONE'S ECONOMIC MESSAGE TO ASEAN

BK061035 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1020 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Denpasar, March 6 (ANTARA) -- Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone believes that a fundamental factor should be established in the prosperity and the stability and relations between Japan and the ASEAN nations. Nakasone in a message delivered by Japanese Ambassador to Indonesia Shigenobu Nagai to the 12th meeting of Japanese and ASEAN businessmen at Nusa Dua, 32 kilometers south of here, Thursday said further that economic relations between Japan and ASEAN have become more important.

He said Japan and ASEAN had developed close cooperation and brotherly relations in many fields, including politics, economy and culture. These continuous relations both between governments and private businessmen have led to the growth of interdependence.

Nakasone added that the world economy is moving toward slow progress because of the slowing down of economic growth in the developing countries. Budgetary deficits, unemployment, deep sentiments of protectionism and swelling international debts are big problems faced by the world at present, he said.

He therefore hoped that the Japanese-ASEAN businessmen meeting in Nusa Dua would result in the creation of a fundamental factor in the effort to build prosperity and stability for each involved countries.

Minister for National Development Planning concurrently Chairman of the National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) J.B. Sumarlin was of the view that Japan-ASEAN regional economic cooperation since the meeting in Tokyo last year, has shown a number of important changes.

Complaints which had been presented last year, have been settled, although in instances are still occurring due to increasing low world economic growth rate. "Nevertheless I am convinced that through hard work of this group the common objective could be achieved", Sumarlin said.

He further said that the Japanese investment rate in ASEAN had shown a decline, because the Japanese economic projection itself in 1986 would be lower than last year's.

Although the volume of ASEAN's trade to Japan is showing an increase, the income is declining compared with previous years, due the sluggish economic growth.

Minster Sumarlin appealed to the Japanese entrepreneurs to increase their investments in ASEAN.

The Japanese entrepreneurs, who attend the two-day meeting in Bali, are members of the Keizai Doyukai and observers from embassies, totalling 67 persons, while from the six member countries of ASEAN there are 38 participants.

MOKHTAR SAYS SITUATION NOT SIMILAR TO PHILIPPINES

BK051524 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 1 Mar 86 pp 1, 12

[Text] Padang, KOMPAS -- Such a process of changing the head of state as happened in the Philippines -- changing from Ferdinand Marcos to Mrs Corazon Aquino -- will not happen in Indonesia because since its establishment, the New Order government in Indonesia has always given priority to rural development with special emphasis on equitable distribution of development achievements.

Foreign Minister Mikhtar Kusumaatmaja said this to newsmen at the west Sumatera governor's office in Padang on Friday [28 February] while on a 3-day visit to the province. Besides giving lectures to local students, the minister also held talks with local officials and community leaders in Bukit Tinggi on Thursday night, during which he briefed them on Indonesia's foreign policy and its stand on international issues, including the Cambodian and Middle East conflicts.

Mokhtar said that rural development in the Philippines had not received due attention and that development programs had been concentrated in urban areas only. Rural areas in the Philippines are so backward that social upheaval could easily arise. This leads to communist manipulation of the people's dissatisfaction with the situation. To make things worse, there was a split in that country's armed forces. This was an indication that the country is facing serious problems. "Do we have similar indications in Indonesia?" Mokhtar asked. He answered this by saying: "As we can see ourselves, the opposite situation now exists in Indonesia." Mokhtar also said that rural people in Indonesia can now enjoy the fruits of rapid economic development. This situation is one of the pillars supporting national stability and also explains why no Indonesians ever think of launching reform movements similar to those in the Philippines.

On the Indonesian Government's stand toward events in that country, Mokhtar stressed: "We respect the will of the Filipino people in choosing their own trusted leader," adding that it is inappropriate for non-Filipinos to question actions that Filipinos consider to be legally proper. "If we question their actions, it means we interfere in the internal affairs of their country," Mokhtar concluded.

MOKHTAR ON INCREASING ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL ARENA

BK050923 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0821 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Jakarta, March 5 (ANTARA) -- World trust in Indonesia is growing, because of the government's continuous endeavour since Pelita I (first five-year development plan, 1969-1974) through Pelita III to improve the country's image in the eyes of the world. "Thanks to this endeavour, the world at present does not only view Indonesia as playing an important role in international affairs, but world attention towards Indonesia is also increasing, Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said in his working-paper at the seminar "20 Years of the New Order" here Tuesday.

World attention to Indonesia, he said, is also due its consistent active role since its foundation in the efforts in preserving world order.

Indonesia as initiator of the Asian African conference in Bandung and one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement occupies a honorary place in the Third World circles, so that its political role and activities at international forums could not be considered insignificant, he continued.

Indonesia's moderate and constructive stand in the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) the Indonesian foreign minister said, is also of great influences not only in Arab countries circles, but also among non-Arab ICO member countries.

In ASEAN circles, he said, Indonesia and the other member countries have succeeded in realizing an association of political significance, which could become a model for other regional cooperations.

Of no less importance, the foreign minister said, is the struggle for the realisation of a new world economic order through the North-South dialogue, in which Indonesia play an important role, beside being an exponent of the Group-77.

Indonesia, he said, has succeeded in upholding its active independent foreign policy, which has been obvious in non-involvement of Indonesia in the existing power-blocs.

Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja continued to say that Indonesia has indeed not yet normalized its relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC), although economic cooperation and direct trade have already taken effect.

The efforts in seeking a settlement in the Kampuchean problem and the efforts to promote peace, in particular in the Asia Pacific region, he said, would probably have more chance of success after Indonesia has normalized its relations with the PRC.

On relations with Indonesia's closest neighbours, viz. Papua New Guinea and Australia, the Indonesian foreign minister said, that they should be further improved, among other things through dissociation from mutual distrust. According to FM Mokhtar, the relations of Indonesia with the countries of the South Pacific could easily be developed if relations of Indonesia with PNG and Australia are already on good footing.

Security and defence conditions here are far better than in Indonesia's neighbour countries, he said. According to Mokhtar, several ASEAN countries in security and defence matters have cooperation agreements with the U.S., Britain, Australia and New Zealand, while Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea have similar agreements with the Soviet Union, which are not promoting the efforts to achieve regional stability, in particular in Southeast Asia.

The foreign minister stressed that increased attention of the U.S. and Canada in the Pacific region and the meeting of four big powers in the Pacific Ocean as well as the emergence of new countries in the South Pacific, should have Indonesia's attention. This attention is necessary, because despite Australia's and New Zealand's very dominant role in the economic field vis-a-vis the new countries (in the South Pacific) both countries will clearly face challenge from Marxist ideology.

Apart from that, he said, the emergence of the new countries in the South Pacific could become a stiff competition for Indonesia's economy, in particular in utilizing the natural resources in the exclusive economic zone.

On strategic policy in the field of foreign affairs, the Indonesia foreign minister said, in the coming two decades Indonesia will continue to implement its active independent foreign policy to serve the national interest. In line with this active independent foreign policy, he said, Indonesia as initiator of the Asian African conference in Bandung and as founder of the Non-Aligned Movement will continue to play an active role in international affairs, in particular participating in the struggle for decolonization and self-determination.

About Asia, Mokhtar said, Indonesia considers it necessary to carry out efforts to preserve and to develop unity in various fields, to constantly search for a political solution of the Kampuchean problem, to develop relations with the Pacific countries, as well as the necessity of paying attention to possible negative influences of the U.S.-PRC rapprochement.

MALAYSIADPRK PROPOSES SHIPPING, COUNTERTRADE AGREEMENTS

BK051157 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1124 GMT 5 Mar 86

[By Yong Soo Heong]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 5 (OANA-BERNAMA) -- North Korea has proposed the establishment of a joint shipping company with Malaysia to alleviate shipping problems between the two countries, an official of its embassy here said Wednesday.

Han Bong-ha [spelling as received], the embassy's second secretary, said the joint venture would not only transport cargoes of both countries but also from third countries.

Such a joint venture proposal was first raised by North Korean Minister of Foreign Trade Choe Chong-kun when he visited Malaysia recently. The Korean delegation had also held talks with various Malaysian shipping officials to sound out the proposal.

Han described the proposal as economically viable because there are many goods which need to be transported in other Asian ports. He said North Korea has a shipping joint venture with Poland and "it is working very well." The Korean-Polish shipping joint venture runs a regular service between Asia and Europe. He said the joint venture could be set up with the purchase of new vessels. Alternatively, both the national shipping lines could provide their existing vessels to the joint venture.

Hans said the lack of direct shipping routes was hampering the development of bilateral trade between Kuala Lumpur and Pyongyang.

According to Han, the Korean foreign trade minister also brought up the subject of countertrade during his visit to Malaysia. He told Malaysian officials that the countertrade system must be pursued vigorously since foreign exchange is hard to obtain at times. For example, Han said, his country could provide technical expertise in rail transport and electrification to Malaysia in lieu of cash normally used in business transactions. He said North Korea would like to pay for Malaysia's natural rubber, tin and palm oil exports through the provision of various services.

Han said the Korean offer should be viewed in the light of South-South co-operation since both countries are at the developing stage. He said other items which could be included in the countertrade list are coal, steel plates, steel pillets, chemicals, heavy machinery and foodstuff. He said although the matter is under serious discussion, his country is ever ready to transact countertrade deals.

HAYDEN LEAVES FOR HONG KONG AFTER 3-DAY VISIT

BK070646 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden left Kuala Lumpur for Hong Kong today after a 3-day visit to Malaysia. During his stay he called on Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed and Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen. Among those at the airport to see him off were Deputy Foreign Minister Detuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir and the Australian high commissioner to Malaysia, Mr David Evans.

FURTHER ON AQUINO AFP INTERVIEW 6 MARCH

HK060817 Hong Kong AFP in English 0757 GMT 6 Mar 86

[By Teodoro Benigno]

[Text] Manila, March 6 (AFP) -- As members of her Cabinet split hairs on an issue the silent woman at the head of the table smiled with the discussion swirling around her. and then she finally thought: "I've had it." Everybody froze as President Corazon Aquino, in one of her first Cabinet meetings early this week, exclaimed: "I just have to remind you I'm the president, and if you cannot respect me, there's no way we can work together."

This was the Cabinet's introduction to the "new Cory" as she told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in an recent interview which covered the high points of what she delights in being told was an "unbelievable political odyssey" from housewife to chief of state. After the Cabinet meeting, a ranking member rushed to Maria Elena Eldon, eldest daughter of the president, and said: "I've never seen your mother so furious in all my life." Other Cabinet members and aides noted that this was another Corazon Aquino they had not seen.

Mrs Aquino said that through the campaign for the watershed February 7 presidential election, she mostly listened as her closest lieutenants and advisers swept into high-flown rhetoric on post-election program that ranged from the esoteric to the banal.

The 53-year-old leader, who was sitting beneath an oil painting of her late husband Benigno Aquino and herself at her office at the Cojuangco bldg. in the suburban district of Makati, laughed good-naturedly as she recalled the Cabinet scolding. Outside, aides bustled, telephones rang, important papers and documents changed hands. Then appointment secretary Ching Escaler mentioned something about switching the government to Malacanang palace this week.

Mrs Aquino was adamant that while she would work in Malacanang, she would not live there. "Of course once in a while, I'll take a siesta there is it's all right with the Filipino people."

When did she stop being "the shadow reflection" of her husband, known to most Filipinos as Ninoy?

"Gosh, if anyone was really brainwashed, it was Corazon Aquino" she said as she recalled her murdered husband's influence on her. But she added: "At a certain point, I was not asking myself anymore to think what Ninoy would do if he were in my place, because things were now totally different, things that I had lived with." She was not specific in the interview about when this change came about but observers believed she was referring to a period early in the presidential campaign.

The president, who was attired at the interview in a simple, short-sleeved yellow dress with a grey jerkin, remembers "two Corys." The first was "emotionally worn out" in 1978 when Mr Aquino campaigned from jail for a parliamentary seat. The opposition he led was crushed 21-0 by the ruling New Society Movement led by Imelda Marcos -- powerful wife of President Ferdinand Marcos -- In the contest for the seats in Metro Manila. "I told Ninoy, this is the end, I said it is useless fighting Marcos in an election," Mrs Aquino said.

The second Cory refused to buckle amid widespread proof that Mr Marcos cheated her of a landslide victory in the February poll: "I did not have that helpless or hopeless feeling this time. I had a personal commitment to all the millions of Filipinos who voted for me," she said. Many were telling her, as she recalled: "Just tell us what you want us to do and we shall do it."

So, sensing the people stirring and rising like a floodtide, she made the decision that led to what is now known universally as "People Power", calling on millions who backed her to take to the streets, churches, plazas. A military mutiny speeded up the overthrow of Mr Marcos and he fled February 25.

Mrs Aquino chuckled her chin on a forefinger, saying that the changes in her character and personality "came slowly and gradually". Suddenly, she remembered the Iglesia ni Kristo (INK) with its solid bloc of three million votes.

The Philippine Church of Christ, which had earlier pledged its support of Marcos, was wavering and her advisers said that all she had to do was phone. "That's three million votes," she remembered one telling her. Mrs Aquino issued a flat no. "If I know I'm gonna win, I don't even have to call them, they'll call me. Now if they think, I'm not gonna win, so there (too bad)," she recalled saying. The Iglesia vote is assiduously courted by all Filipino politicians.

The president, alternately coughing from a sore throat and laughing, said her husband "was more forgiving than myself. He would blow hot and cold but it was very easy for him to forget." "It takes me longer to get really angry, but when I do, wow, you better count the years before I start talking to you again. So that's the big difference," she said.

She looked up at the portrait of herself and Ninoy, then continued: "I listen to everybody but there's a limit.. I guess that's why Ninoy and I complemented each other."

Mrs Aquino, frail-looking after having lost more than six kilograms (14 pounds) since the electoral campaign started in early December, said another pet peeve was "braggarts, I just don't like braggarts. The eyes somewhat misty, she said: "I've done my job. I hope the Filipino people will forgive me if along the way I make some mistakes." She hesitated a split-second, then added: "As long as they know I did not do it intentionally."

Meeting With Solarz

HK061223 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 1100 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] The American Congress is being asked to help in efforts to enable the Philippine Government recover assets illegally taken out of the country by the Marcos government and cronies. American Congressman Stephen Solarz told local newsmen that he has filed a bill with the American Congress that would allow federal court jurisdiction over suits filed by the Philippine Government to recover the assets.

Solarz met with newsmen today after calling on President Corazon Aquino at the Cojuangco building in Makati. Solarz, head of the Subcommittee on Asia-Pacific affairs, assured President Aquino that he will do everything to facilitate the recovery of stolen Philippine assets.

AQUINO CONDUCTS CABINET SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

HK070435 Hong Kong AFP in English 0418 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 7 (AFP) -- Philippine President Corazon Aquino Friday swore in 17 government officials inside the presidential palace complex in simple rites that sharply departed from the lavishness of strongman Ferdinand Marcos's rule.

The ceremony was not carried out inside the sombre wood-panelled palace itself, but in the airy glass-walled guest house, decorated in green and white, which Mrs. Aquino has said she will use as her offices. The palace itself is to be turned into a museum. Mrs. Aquino is still using temporary offices in the Makati financial district of Manila and no date has been set for permanent move into the new offices.

Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, who had served Mr Marcos for 16 years before heading a civilian-military revolt which toppled him 10 days ago, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the ceremony was "austere and simple." The atmosphere in the guest house was informal and relaxed, unlike the heavy formality of the Marcos days, and there was no sign of the refreshments which used to be offered guests and journalists on such occasions. "I think that as a poor nation, we must be as simple as we can possibly be in our manner of dealing with public affairs," Mr Enrile said.

Mr Enrile was among the 17 heads of ministries and other officials such as the head of the coconut board who carry Cabinet rank sworn in by Mrs Aquino. The swearing-in ceremony took about 30 seconds for each official, presidential executive secretary Joker Arroyo told AFP.

The general informality caused some confusion, with a traffic jam inside the palace compound as dignitaries and guests parked their cars in any available space, including lawns hitherto off limits to everyone, eyewitnesses said. Some 300 people gathered at the palace gates, where officials and their families left their cars to walk the 100 metres (yards) to the guest house, applauding the better-known Cabinet members and ignoring the other officials.

Security seemed lax in comparison to the Marcos era, with only a few police, unarmed plainclothesmen and military police armed only with wooden nightsticks, instead of the heavily-armed guards of the previous administration.

Each new official said: "I... solemnly swear that I will discharge to the best of my ability all the duties and responsibilities of the office to which I have been appointed, uphold the fundamental law of the Republic of the Philippines and obey all the laws of the land without mental reservation or purpose of evasion. So help me God."

The new appointments virtually complete the Cabinet, but there is still no Minister of Labour or Minister for Agrarian Reform. Businessmen have been pressing for the immediate appointment of a Labour Minister to resolve current industrial disputes and to enforce labour laws more strictly, and President Aquino has pledged to continue agrarian reform. Press reports here have said that a number of people are jockeying for the Labour Ministry position, and Mrs Aquino is having some difficulty in making a choice that will be generally accepted.

LAUREL RETIRES POLITICALLY APPOINTED AMBASSADORS

HK070427 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Mar 86 p 3

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Salvador H. Laurel yesterday retired all 16 political appointees of former President Marcos in the ministry. The retirement of the political appointees, so-called because they did not come from the ranks of career officials, was made effective regardless of whether or not they submitted their courtesy resignations to President Aquino. Retired were: Benjamin T. Romualdez, former ambassador to Washington; Jose V. Cruz, Ambassador to London; Fortunato U. Abat, Peking; Bienvenido Tantoco, Vatican; Romulo M. Espaldon, Cairo; Ernesto S. Gidaya, Tel Aviv; Mauyag M. Tamano, Riyadh; Jacobo C. Clave, Greece; Iscar M. Carino, Toronto; Rafael M. Iletto, Bangkok; Manuel T. Yan, Jakarta; Carlos J. Valdes, Tokyo, Manuel H. Nieto, Jr., Madrid; Emilio D. Bejasa, New Delhi; Ma. Constante Cruz, Rangoon; and Francisco A. Joves, Belgrade.

Laurel's act, considered as the first step in reorganizing the ministry, was met with approval by MFA [Ministry of Foreign Affairs] personnel who saw it as a chance to secure long-awaited promotions.

Ministry insiders believe that Laurel's next move will be to relieve officials who are long past the age of retirement but who have managed to hold on to their posts because of "strong connections." This was a promise made by Laurel during a press conference held Monday.

More MFA officials signed up for the petition opposing the order of President Aquino to submit courtesy resignations. The petition, circulated among the various MFA offices, starting Thursday last week, counts among its 14 signatories two ambassadors, several counsellors and some foreign service officers (FSOS).

RADIO CITES REAGAN REMARKS ON MARCOS' WEALTH

HK061219 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 1100 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] President Ronald Reagan said he was personally not aware that former President Marcos has brought crates of money into the United States. He said he has always believed that the deposed president was a millionaire before he took office 20 years ago. State Department and customs officials have flown to Hawaii to help solve legal problems surrounding the 22 crates of Philippine pesos, documents, and valuables that arrived with the ex-president and his entourage. Mr Marcos has chosen Hawaii as his temporary home in exile since he left the country last week.

ROMUALDEZ FAMILY LEAVES; TAKES MONEY, GUNS

HK070410 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 6 Mar 86 p 3

[Vito Barcelo]

[Text] Over P50 million in cash and personal belongings of Commodore Alfredo Romualdez, elder brother of former First Lady Imelda R. Marcos, were secretly shipped from Manila to Tacloban City, Leyte, home province of the Romualdez clan, Coast Guard reports said. Romualdez, chief of the naval reserve command, hurriedly left with his family last Saturday night on board the ship Legaspi.

The reports said the newly-printed P100 bills were contained in 10 wooden crates and six sacks. Each crate reportedly contained P5-million. The Romualdez family left at around 11 p.m. at the Manila North harbor to avoid detection. Aside from the money, they also had five six-by-six wooden crates carried by Coast Guard men on board the ship and believed to contain firearms, Coast Guard sources said.

Only last week, about P65 million in cash contained in 13 wooden boxes were seized from a driver of Commodore Romualdez on Roxas Boulevard. The driver, Arturo T. Tabutol, 32, an employee of the Philippine Games and Amusement Board, admitted to Brig. Gen. Narciso Cabrera, Manila police chief, that the money belonged to Alfredo Romualdez.

GOVERNMENT CANCELS PASSPORTS OF MARCOS, ENTOURAGE

BK070745 Manila PNA in English 0735 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 7 (PNA) -- The Philippine Government Friday cancelled the passport of ousted President Ferdinand Marcos and 89 others who fled with him to Hawaii last Feb. 5. The Foreign Ministry said the cancellation applies to holders of diplomatic, official and regular passports. Aside from Mr. Marcos, others who went with him included his wife, Imelda, son Ferdinand Jr., daughters Imee and Irene, former military chief Gen. Fabian C. Ver and multimillionaire industrialist Eduardo Cojuangco Jr.

Cojuangco, a cousin of newly installed President Corazon Cojuangco Aquino, is the board chairman of San Miguel Corp., the Philippines' largest industrial firm. He was acknowledged as the major financier of Mr. Marcos' reelection bid in the Feb. 7 snap presidential elections. Cojuangco, one of the business cronies of Mr. Marcos, held the rank of ambassador during the Marcos regime.

"I have issued instructions and Deputy Foreign Minister Jose D. Ingles was the one who personally implemented it," Laurel said. He said his instruction was for the cancellation of the diplomatic, special (red) and regular passports of the entire Marcos group.

"I have also issued instructions to cancel all the others, including that of Ambassador Cojuangco," he added. This means, he explained, that "we are applying the rule without regard to whoever the person is."

According to Ingles, he had notified all the Philippine embassies and consulates abroad as well as foreign governments of the cancellation of the passports. The cancellation would restrict the movement abroad of the persons involved.

In the United States, however, Mr Marcos and his party may not need passports since they had been granted asylum. But in other countries, Laurel said, they could not go. "Whether we will issue them new passports after the cancellation is under study," Laurel said.

This matter will be decided after consultation with President Aquino, he added. Laurel said: If they want to have new passports, they would have to apply, and this will be considered on a case-to-case basis. In this matter, I will have to consult the president."

AIRPORT SECURITY ON ALERT FOR FLEEING FILIPINOS

HK070649 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0400 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Authorities at the Manila International Airport remained on alert today against the departure of persons who are on the hold order list. Scores of persons are reported in the list and cannot leave the country. Aviation Security Command chief Augusto Paiso said authorities are in the process of trimming down the list.

[Begin Paiso recording] Immigration has a list and as far as this [words indistinct] announced in the newspapers which came out yesterday, we are in the process of sanitizing that list. I understand that there are some names that should not have appeared on the list and there are also some names that should be on that list. [end recording]

COLUMNIST ON SOVIET RECOGNITION OF MARCOS

HK070038 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 28 Feb 86 p 4

["Towncrier" column by Vice Barranco: "The Greatest Blunder"]

[Text] The greatest political blunder of Ferdinand Marcos was that he thought he could cheat a mathematician. Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino is a master of science in mathematics. And that science includes arithmetic, plane and solid geometry, and calculus. Mathematics is an exact science. It is exact and absolute in truth and figures.

Backing up Cory Aquino in the war of mathematical figures versus the figures in the political balloon of Marcos that can be inflated, were the 30 courageous computer girls whose conscience revolted against the balloonist method used by the Comelec [Commission on Elections] that was trying to corrupt them. The girls remained loyal to the ethics of their profession. HAIL TO THEM. [Capitalized words published in boldface] They are heroines of the last election. They deserve public reward.

I read a half-page sketchy bio-data of Cory Aquino, and I was immediately impressed by it much more than the voluminous biography of Marcos all in superlatives from page 1 to page 600, by Hartzell Spence (or some Stateside writer.) Marcos, the Comelec and Speaker Nicanor Yniguez cannot live down that mistake of trying to cheat a lady mathematician. You can cheat a fellow gambler; not a master mathematician.

I have to read more essays on loneliness to understand better the mutual feelings of Marcos and the Soviet Ambassador in the Philippines when they met as two forlorn, pathetic figures in Malacanang after the proclamation of Marcos by Mr. Yniguez elected in the snap poll.

The Russian ambassador was the only one of the big corps of chiefs of foreign missions in Manila, to recognize the election of Marcos. The Comrade was the first to congratulate Marcos and to reiterate Philippine-Soviet friendship and cooperation. He thought gleefully he was ahead of all ambassadors to greet Marcos. But when he looked back, no other foreign ambassador was in sight. The Russian was an island by himself. And so was his friend Marcos.

The eagerness of the Russian ambassador to recognize the "victory" of Marcos, I feared, presaged the joining of the Philippines with the Communist block. Thanks heaven, it is Cory Aquino who will presently be president of our beloved land. No craps with the Russians. No win by the favorite numbers 7 and 11 of Marcos.

One of the main problems in our foreign relations is the Soviet design to engulf Southeast Asia, specially the Philippines, in its sphere of political, economic and military influence. The USSR, despite Cory Aquino's victory, which is the victory of the Filipino people, and in longer view the victory of America, will not be deterred from its set goal of aggression, encroachment, subversion and exploitation of Southeast Asia. Now we should be relieved and happy that the designs of Marcos to place us in the grip of the communist ideology and system has been decisively checked by the victory of Corazon Aquino.

We remember some what with traumatic fear the press conference of Marcos in Malacanang a day or two after the election, when an American correspondent asked Marcos what he would do if President Reagan would cut off ties with the Philippines after being convinced of the fraudulent election. Marcos answered that he was ready to make some arrangement for a modus vivendi with Soviet Russia. It was clear Marcos was going to sell the Philippines down the Volga to the Kremlin. For some days it sent cold shivers up and down our spine. Not anymore.

LEGALITY OF REOPENING AQUINO CASE QUESTIONED

HK070645 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0400 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Legal authorities today warned that the reopening of the Aquino-Galman case might place the original accused under double jeopardy. Under this legal principle, an accused person cannot be tried twice for the same offense or crime. Tanodbayan Manuel Fernandez mentioned the double jeopardy principle as he cautioned against those who advocate the reopening of the Aquino-Galman case. [Fernandez recording indistinct]

At the same time, Fernandez vehemently denied that prosecutors in the Aquino-Galman case were subjected to pressure by former President Marcos. He did not deny that he and the prosecution lawyers, as well as justices of the Sandiganbayan, had been summoned to Malacanang in January 1985. Fernandez claims however he did not receive any direct orders from Mr Marcos. [Fernandez recording indistinct]

NEW ACTING CUSTOMS COMMISSIONER APPOINTED

HK051545 Marila BUSINESS DAY in English 4 Mar 86 p 24

[Text] President Aquino has appointed Wigberto Tanada the new acting customs commissioner to replace Brig Gen Ramon Farolan who is now head of the Philippine Air Force.

Son of former Sen Lorenzo Tanada, the new acting Bureau of Customs head is an active member of Southern Tagalog Attorneys for Nationalism (STAN). He is also a member of the Movement of Attorneys for Brotherhood, integrity and Nationalism Inc. (Mabini) and the vice-president of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan Southern Tagalog Region.

Tanada, 51, was appointed last Feb 27, but he received his appointment papers last March 2.

President Aquino also appointed Mita Pardo de Tavera as the new minister of social services and development. Karina Constantino David was appointed the deputy minister of the Ministry of Social Services and Development.

EDUCATION MINISTER DISCUSSES PRIORITIES

HK070119 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Education Minister Lourdes Quisumbing says that she will give priority to the demand for economic benefit of the country's public school teachers and non-academic personnel. Dr Quisumbing reiterated her commitment to press for large education appropriations and promised to defer the implementation of the controversial national service law.

Dr Quisumbing announced the appointment of three new deputy ministers to replace the previous administration's appointees, whose resignations were accepted. The three new deputy ministers are member of parliament Arthur Defensor of Iloilo, Dr (Mingo Sotaria), Director of the Bureau of Elementary Education, and Dr Jose de Jesus, executive vice president of the Development Academy of the Philippines.

COLUMNIST OPPOSES RETENTION OF FERNANDEZ AT CB

HK070114 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 28 Feb 86 p 4

["Now and Then" column by Jose J. Burgos Jr: "Why Jobo Fernandez?"]

[Text] You could have knocked me down with a feather when I heard President Cory Aquino announce, during her first press conference last Wednesday afternoon, the retention of Jose B. Fernandez, Jr. as Central Bank [CB] governor. Of course, I recognize the fact that Mr Fernandez has a fixed term of office (I think it's for 10 years), and legally, he would be entitled to serving out his full term.

However, his invited presence at the press conference and the presidential introduction of him as the Central Bank governor, along with the introduction of the new Cabinet members, indicate very clearly Mrs Aquino's personal preference for the Central Bank chief. This presidential preferred choice is underscored by the fact that the job of Central Bank governor is not a Cabinet position. So, his presence at the press conference and Mrs Cory Aquino's presentation of him as a member of the Cabinet was to me, off tangent.

Not only me but most other people, I am sure, are disappointed over this presidential action. For Jobo Fernandez has been perceived to be a Marcos alalay [follower] since his appointment two years ago, serving a role of presidential errand boy and not performing the duties of the position with the independence required by the job.

His most notable "crime" was when he ordered the closure of Banco Filipino without due process in order that a party close to Malacanang could take over the then biggest Filipino savings bank. He attempted to pull the underhanded feat by telling the Banco Filipino officials to endorse in blank the majority shares of the financial institution as a pre-condition to the Central Bank's extension of assistance to the beleaguered bank.

For this questionable [as published] alone -- if for no other -- Mr Fernandez exposed his total unfitness for the all-important post of Central Bank governor. So, when Mrs Cory Aquino finally assumed the office to which the majority of Filipinos voted her last Feb 7, you could have knocked me down with a feather -- so dumbfounded I was.

But to be fair, the new President may have valid reasons for retaining Fernandez as CB head and for "promoting" him to the Cabinet. I hope Cory Aquino will tell us what those compelling reasons are.

The new lady President said during the press conference that she will "lead by example" not only in her lifestyle as a citizen but also in doing her job as President. She had been stressing this during the electoral campaign.

Simple living and austerity should, therefore, be given by President Aquino the first priority in announcing her policies of administration. And when I say "simplicity and austerity" in the government service, it should be real, genuine, unequivocal SIMPLICITY and AUSTERITY [as published in capital letters] implemented without any ifs and buts, starting from Malacanang and spreading down to all branches of the government -- national, local and corporate. Under Marcos, austerity was a big joke, with nobody following it, including the President himself and, most of all, his First Lady. Now, here is the golden opportunity for President Aquino to do as she had preached, without any hypocrisy. If she will lead by example in practicing simplicity and austerity, the nation will survive its greatest crisis in history.

PAPER CITES BANKERS' CONCERNS ABOUT CABINET

HK041436 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 1 Mar 86 p 8

[By Juanito Vicencio, Jr]

[Text] In a few days, opposition to the Cabinet lineup presented by the new government may snowball as some bankers have started casting doubts on the acceptability of some appointees. Some bankers said the lineup looks imperfect as some appointees in the sensitive posts are proteges of some political warlords now in the ruling party.

There are two or three people now in the present setup that bear watching, the bankers said. However, they declined to identify them. The bankers made these comments on the basis of the political background and track record of some of the appointees.

Some businessmen said that this disappointment arose largely because many people expected a complete shakeup of the Cabinet and the entire government setup. However, they said it is too early to make any harsh judgment on some of the appointees. And since their appointments are only on an "acting capacity," their performance would soon show if they are fit for the job or not.

The retention of another ranking official who had served under the failed Marcos regime is also being doubted whether it is in keeping with the new spirit by which the new administration is believed should be guided. The bankers thus suggested that the government of President Aquino should carefully review the present lineup of top officials who should be acceptable, not only to the wide majority of the ruling party, but to various sectors of the society.

The bankers requested anonymity obviously to avoid incurring the ire of people who are now in power. They also suggested that people who will be appointed to key positions in government should be completely above suspicions and whose track record is uncheckered. Otherwise, they claimed, this government would become a mere carbon copy of the old dispensation under a discredited ruler.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Jaime Ongpin has exerted great effort to defend the appointment of Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez which has drawn strong opposition from various sectors. "The people are being unfair to 'Jobo'," he said, "considering that he (Fernandez) gave up a lucrative position in one of the highest earning banks in the country only to put an order to the then beleaguered Central Bank."

"Ferdandez and former Prime Minister Cesar Virata have a pretty good reputation internationally and they have done their best to stop excessive government spendings. However, they were not able to control the budget ministry from doing so because it was directly under the Office of the President which gave every blessing to the unnecessary outflow of money," he explained.

NAMFREL OFFICIALS OPPOSE CONCEPCION APPOINTMENT

HK070447 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Mar 86 p 3

[Text] Four top officials have bolted the National Movement for Free Elections [Namfrel] allegedly in disgust over the acceptance of Namfrel Chairman Jose S. Concepcion Jr. of a Cabinet position under the Aquino administration. Reliable sources said Namfrel vice chairman Vicente R. Jayme, secretary general Christian S. Monsod, finance chairman Dante G. Santos and executive council member Vicente T. Paterno are organizing a new movement in place of Namfrel in the wake of complaints that it supported President Aquino in the Feb. 7 elections in violation of its role as a neutral citizens arm of the Commission on Elections.

Concepcion announced his resignation as Namfrel chairman last Friday upon assumption of his duties as Minister of Trade and Industry. He is chief executive of the Republic Flour Mills involved in flour milling, food processing and other industries, including appliances and electronics. It was not ascertained if he had resigned these positions.

Political leaders including MP Homobono A. Adaza (Opposition, Misamis Oriental) and former Sen. Rene Espina, UNIDO secretary general, have criticized as "untimely," among other things, Concepcion's acceptance of his Cabinet position. The four Namfrel officials were reported to have commented it would have been all right for Concepcion to hold the education portfolio which was reportedly first offered to him since, they explained, there would be no conflict of interest. Concepcion had explained he accepted the offer of President Aquino to join her Cabinet "upon reflection and in consultation with my family, associates in business and civic organizations, and members of the Namfrel council."

JUSTICE MINISTER ON GOVERNMENT LEGITIMACY

BK060632 Manila PNA in English 0622 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 6 (PNA) -- Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales Thursday said the Aquino government, despite its revolutionary character, has imposed a limitation on the exercise of its powers by its adherence to fundamental laws and basic human rights. Gonzales, a law dean and a respected authority on political and constitutional law, said the administration of President Corazon Aquino is accountable to the people, legally and politically.

Gonzales' statement came in the wake of apprehension from certain sectors that in view of the tremendous powers in the hands of the revolutionary government, it is no less different from the discredited Marcos regime. Allaying these fears, the minister said the country's criminal, civil and commercial laws have not been suspended and they continue to operate.

Government acts must not be a derogation of these statutes, he said. Gonzales said the bill of rights in the constitution is in full force and that no less than President Aquino herself guaranteed its protection. He said the president's sincerity in upholding civil liberties was clearly demonstrated when she issued a proclamation lifting the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus last Sunday and the release of political detainees.

Gonzales also cited the ratification by the Aquino government recently of the international covenant on civil and political rights which put into binding legal form the rights proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations. Gonzales said the adoption by the Philippine Government of the covenant was recommended by a former chief justice in 1977 but it remained unacted upon by the past administration.

The ministry earlier said that the government, by nature and in essence, is a revolutionary government operating independently of the 1973 constitution, but it has reserved exercising the ultimate option of invoking its powers thus far. Denying that the government is prolonging the situation, Gonzales said there is every effort on the part of the Aquino administration to move toward the direction of constitutional government but this, he added, takes time.

He also rejected claims that the government is illegal or illegitimate, saying that while at its inception the government was illegitimate, it was later legitimated by a manifestation of public support and acceptance without any recognizable resistance or withdrawal of support from the populace. He said the Aquino Government is now in possession of power with effective control of the entire archipelago which was gained recognition of the international community.

KBL LEADERS PRESS ON STATUS OF GOVERNMENT

HK061455 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 6 Mar 86 pp 1, 7

[By David C. Borje]

[Text] Demands for a "definitive" status of the week-old Aquino administration mounted yesterday in the face of confusion it has spawned among the citizenry. MP Arturo M. Tolentino (KBL, Manila) said President Aquino should put a stop to on-going debates on the kind of government now existing -- whether it is revolutionary or constitutional -- by an official announcement of her government's status.

Prime Minister Cesar Virata also conveyed the same message to President Aquino, citing the statements of Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales in an interview last Monday. "In view of the pronouncement by your Minister of Justice a great deal of concern, confusion and doubt has been expressed by both public officials and the public at large. For our guidance, we would like to request confirmation or clarification on your part with respect of these statements," Virata wrote President Aquino. "We feel this is necessary because of your position as head of your government so that the people may know precisely the extent of power of your government and the rights that may be enjoyed by our people," Virata told the President.

Tolentino said the character of the present government simply means it does not respect the law and constitution, and that while it recognizes the existence of the Supreme Court, it does not respect the tenure of office of its members. Several justices of the Supreme Court and Intermediate Appellate Court have resigned in response to the President's call for reorganization in the government and on the assumption that it is revolutionary in nature. Under a revolutionary government, the President can totally overhaul the government and compel the resignation of all government officials, regardless of tenure.

On a television program the other night, Tolentino exchanged views with Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales, Local Government Minister Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and UNIDO Secretary-General Rene Espina on legal and constitutional aspects of the new government.

Gonzales said that the government is "revolutionary" in nature but legitimate because of the people's acceptance. He added the government operates within the framework of the Constitution. The justice minister said the Aquino government must be judged on what it has done and can do. He explained that the government "respects human rights," citing the lifting of the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus in Mindanao and the release of political prisoners.

Espina said he was "disturbed by the term revolutionary government," stressing that its only redeeming feature is Mrs Aquino and her good intentions. He cited what he called lack of "moral dimension" in the replacement of local officials even before the expiration of their term. He described such replacement as "very dangerous" and tantamount to destabilization of government. He calimed that what is urgent is the legalization of the Aquino government, expressing fears that "continued instability will lead to anarchy." Espina said the political situation "is not stabilized" as he proposed the holding of a constitutional convention to adopt necessary reforms for ratification by the people.

Defending the Aquino government and his recent orders replacing certain local officials, Pimentel said the "situation is demanded by exigencies in temporary duration." He said those involved in graft and corruption should give way to deserving replacements. He explained that any replacement will be made in consultation with the President and the people.

Tolentino and Espina took exception to Pimentel's statement that the term of local officials expired last March 2 or 3. They cited the Omnibus Election Code that "all local incumbent officials whose tenure of office shall expire on March 23, 1986 shall hold office until June 30, 1986 or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified... that they cannot be suspended or removed with out just cause."

EDITORIAL: REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT 'REALITY'

HK061429 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Accepting a Reality"]

[Text] The Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, still the majority party in the Batasang Pambansa, has announced that it "...is considering the legitimation of the Aquino government" but conditioned on the "...promise that the Aquino government will act in accordance with the rule of law and the Constitution."

It is strange that a party, which for the last 14 years has made a travesty of the rule of law and the Constitution, not only by its amoral subservience to one man, but also by its legislative reinforcement of the mockery of the law by this man, should now have the intestinal fortitude to gratuitously offer conditional constitutionality to the new government brought into power by the popular will.

For despite its reluctance to identify itself as such, the new government, as observed correctly by Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales, is one which has been swept into office by the revolution of the people. Any attempt to deodorize the dark connotations of a revolutionary government by acquiescence to the provisions of the present Constitution would be a rejection of the people's reason for manning the barricades which was the removal of a dictatorship which drew its sustenance from the mantle of legalese which its own 1973 Constitution and Parliament draped it with.

It is to the credit of the new government that while it has the capability to do otherwise, it has chosen to work within the framework of existing law to dismantle the onerous impositions of the previous regime even though the people's mandate expects the speedy but just destruction of the political and social structures which gave muscle to an ignominious chapter of our history.

We do not speak out to favor the perpetuation of a revolutionary government but for its acceptance as a reality as the first and necessary step in the transition from one-man rule to a democracy. The 1973 Constitution and its legal progeny were spawned for tyranny and the breeding of dynasties. And unless the regime is resigned to emulate the vagaries of its predecessors, it should remove the constraints to a swift swing towards normalcy which only a revolutionary government can hasten.

After this first step has been taken, it is imperative that a new organic law or charter be drawn up which will govern the conduct and affairs of those who govern and those who are governed, taking care to breathe into it the safeguards that will never allow any one man, or group of men ever to rule us without our consent. Once the rules for the game have been spelled out, we strongly suggest that elections be held immediately both for the local governments and the national assembly or congress as the case may be.

We understand that the proposal for the drafting of a new charter and the subsequent holding of elections have already been made by the vice-president. Whatever the merits, or the lack of it, of the Laurel proposal, this does not detract from the validity of both exercises. For we must return to an environment of law and order guaranteed and administered by those whom we have chosen freely without fraud and intimidation before we can face in earnest the staggering but impossible task of lifting our nation from the ruins.

ENRILE PROTESTS AQUINO PROMOTION OF OFFICER

BK070137 Manila PNA in English 0118 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 7 (PNA) -- Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile has protested to President Corazon Aquino her promotion of a sacked Air Force officer. In a letter to the chief executive, Enrile said Aquino's promotion to the next higher rank of Air Force Lt. Col. Adelberto Yap had drawn adverse and unfavorable reaction from 34 other officers who were more senior than him.

Yap, a highly decorated combat officer, was sacked during the time of former President Ferdinand Marcos because of his wife's open support to Aquino's political opposition. He was confined to barracks and not given any position in the Philippine Air Force.

In his letter, Enrile asked the president to reconsider her decision in view of mounting grumblings from other officers who felt prejudiced by Yap's sudden promotion. The defense minister suggested to Aquino that she promote instead Yap to the grade of temporary colonel and not permanent as she ordered in her memorandum last Feb. 27. As temporary colonel, Enrile said, Yap will still enjoy the privileges and prerogatives of the grade of colonel.

He said the 34 other military officers who complained against Yap's promotion belonged to class 1966 of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), class 1966 of the Philippine Air Force flying school, class 1967 of the PMA and class 1968 of the PMA. Yap belonged to class 1968 of the Philippine Air Force flying school. In recommending Yap's temporary grade of colonel, Enrile said "he will not unduly gain seniority rights over the officers above him in the seniority and lineal list and would foego any adverse effect on officer morale."

"I am sure the president acted in good faith as she is not familiar yet with laws and procedures in the military," he added. Enrile added, "We have to bring this to her attention so that corrections can be made and that the officers who are being prejudiced with the promotion could be satisfied." Yap's promotion is reportedly threatening a rift between President Aquino's office and the new Armed Forces of the Philippines.

CONTROVERSY CONTINUES OVER LOCAL OFFICIALS

HK070113 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] The controversy over the summary replacement of local officials continues to haunt the news headlines. The KBL executive committee insisted yesterday [6 March] that no local officials will be replaced except through election. The nine-man committee pointed out that, under the Omnibus Election Code, the terms of local officials expire on June 30, but they will continue to hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Meanwhile, assistant majority floor leader Salvador Britanico said the KBL will push for a constitutional government. [Begin Britanico recording] ...of a revolutionary government. [words indistinct] under the law. And so the statement of the Minister of Justice Mr Gonzalez is inconsistent, because then he says that ours is a revolutionary government, and yet we are going to enforce that law which we want to be enforced and disregard those which we want to disregard. And so the prejudicial question is, what laws are to be enforced, what laws are to be disregarded, and since the revolutionary government is supposed to be able to impose its will on a case-to-case basis even, then there is no real law. Well, the implication is might is right, whoever is [word indistinct] I should say, is right. That is the implication of this form of rule of law. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Gingong City has two mayors, one appointed recently by Local Government Minister Aquilino Pimentel, and the other is a hold-over of the city administration. (Agdero Lugod), who was appointed as officer in charge of the city government by Minister Pimentel, holds office at the old city hall, while hold-over mayor (Miguel Paderanga) continues to perform his functions at the new city hall. (Paderanga's) followers have formed a barricade outside his office to prevent (Lugod) from officially taking over the reins of the city government. The barricade started March 3, when Minister Pimentel appointed (Lugod) and terminated the term of (Paderanga). (Lugod's) appointment was subsequently circularized among city officials. (Paderanga) however said he will not vacate his office, and told his supporters that he would relinquish the mayorship only if an election were held and if he is beaten. Supporting him are officials of the Association of Barangay Councils.

PIMENTEL 'WELCOMES' CONTEST ON REPLACEMENT POLICY

HK061211 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 1100 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Local Government Minister Aquilino Pimentel Jr said he welcomes any move to contest his ministry's stand that the term of office of all elected local officials had expired. He said the appointment of local officials is a necessity to make the government continue in its functions. Pimentel pointed out that batas pambansa 52 [national law 52] provides that local officials elected in 1980 serve only for 6 years. He explained that the provisions of the Omnibus Election Code was made on the assumption that the local elections will be held as scheduled this year. That provision allows the local officials to serve until June 30 or until their successors are duly elected. But he said President Aquino has already announced that there will be no local elections this year.

At the same time, Pimentel reiterated that supervision and control over local police forces will soon be restored to local executives. Pimentel made the announcement during his meeting with regional directors of the Ministry of Local Governments at his office yesterday afternoon. During the meeting, he said the new administration has pledged to restore to cities and municipal officials supervision and control over local police forces. The police forces and firefighters were integrated during the martial law days and supervision and control over these were given to the military. Later, former President Marcos in amendment law, granted the local executives a certain amount of supervision over the police forces.

EMERGING POLITICAL OPPOSITION GROUPS DESCRIBED

HK050947 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Mar 86 p 6

[Column by Willie Ng: "Opposition to the Opposition"]

[Text] The opposition came into power barely a week ago and already a new opposition is forming. Former President Diosdado Macapagal met the other day with other leaders of the long march against the Marcos administration with the view of putting out a policy paper on the status of President Corazon Aquino's revolutionary government. With him, among others were Abraham Sarmiento, a former vice president of the 1973 Constitutional Convention [Concon]; Jose Feliciano, former secretary of agriculture; Dr Jose Pelayo, former social welfare administrator; and Ramon Diaz, former Concon delegate.

Diaz was given the work of drafting the policy paper, which would launch an opposition to the opposition now in power.

I guess the Macapagal group, which had vigorously opposed Mr Marcos for more than 10 years, feels left out now that people's power has ousted him from office. They are the forgotten heroes.

Another group ready to emerge as the new opposition is the Bayan [New People's Alliance] whose chairman, former Sen Lorenzo Tanada, took a leave of absence to campaign with the Aquino-Laurel ticket. With victory achieved, Tanada has quietly resumed the leadership in the Bayan.

The Bayan has come forward with the observation that "the same old faces" dot the new power group which is to run the government. The Bayan also points out that there should be a "multi-sectoral representation" in the Aquino power structure, meaning to say, there should be farmers, workers, etc., who should be given posts in the cabinet and other areas.

This reminds one of the tumultuous days following the election when Marcos spokesman J.V. Cruz suddenly attacked Namfrel Chairman Jose Concepcion with the charge that the Namfrel board was elitist, that it had no farmers or workers in it. One wonders if the presence of farmers and workers in the Namfrel board could have dramatically improved its performance. Deng Xiaoping has an answer to that: It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white as long as it catches mice.

Eager to join the ranks of fiscalizers is Gilberto Teodoro, administrator of the Social Security System [SSS] and chairman of the Union Bank, which is partly owned by the SSS. His eagerness to depart from the scene is heightened by the handfull of SSS workers who have been demonstrating against him for higher salaries. These demonstrations have hurt him more than he would care to admit.

In his 20 years as administrator, Bert has built up the assets of the SSS to massive proportions. He is all set to turn over to the Aquino administration a hoard of nearly P20 billion in assets, almost all of them liquid. He has repeatedly called up ranking officials of the new administration to appoint a successor to him at the SSS and the Union Bank. Under the law, he cannot relinquish these positions until successors are appointed. Central Bank officials have asked him to stay on at the Union Bank, whose structure is that of a private bank. But Teodoro would not even entertain the thought.

"My only hope is that they would appoint to head the SSS a person with ability and integrity to protect that P19 billion nest egg," he said. He would like an oppositionist such as former Public Works Minister Vicente Paterno to take his place. The two of them are cut from the same conservative cloth.

"As for me," Bert said, "let me have the luxury of joining the idlers at the coffee shops and do some armchair critiques of the new powers that be."

BAYAN FAVORS HOLDING, PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL ELECTIONS

HK060749 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0700 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] The president of the Bohol Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (New People's Alliance) [Bayan] says his organization is in favor of holding local elections instead of replacing incumbent officials outright. Lawyer Artemio (Caboto) criticized the actions of Local Government Minister Aquilino Pimentel as a semblance of the dictatorial regime of former President Marcos. He said Bayan is now ready to participate in any electoral process. Bayan boycotted the February 7th polls. (Cabato) predicted that President Aquino's regime will be successful in solving the insurgency problem because most of the hard-core subversives were anti-Marcos. However he said Bayan is opposed to any form of U.S. intervention.

MILITARY REFORM GROUP TO KEEP 'LOW PROFILE'

HK061437 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Mar 86 p 23

[Text] The Armed Forces [AFP] reform movement will continue until wide-ranging and substantial reforms are implemented in the military. Some reformists see themselves playing a "militant" role since they are now an open organization and can police their own ranks and get rid of "counter-revolutionaries" more effectively. Ultimately, the long-term goal of the reform movement is for the whole Armed Forces "to internalize the virtues of professionalism." Once this goal is achieved, the reform movement will self-destruct." But they intend to keep a low profile and adopt a wait-and-see attitude, in the meantime, giving the new administration time to institute reforms.

These organizational directions were disclosed to BUSINESS DAY by a group of reformists, among them, Navy Capt Felix Turingan, PC (Philippine Constabulary) Col Ramon Martinez, Air Force Col Hector Tarrazona, Navy Lt Alexander Pama, Lt Greg Catapang and Lt Raffy Tadeo.

At present, they await the following reforms: promotion of officers based on merit, trimming down of the Armed Forces and increasing salaries.

"The revolution has just started," said Tadeo. "The spirit (of reformism) is still intact and this needs to be institutionalized among the ranks." Said Tarrazona, "We don't have a monopoly of virtues." Tadeo pointed out that the reform movement may turn into a "fellowship" should there be no need to push for reforms and would be inclined to meet "on a subject to subject basis."

A ranking intelligence officer sympathetic to the movement told BUSINESS DAY he foresees the reform movement to be "no longer a special group within the AFP" but one that will encompass the whole Armed Forces. "If reforms take place, the movement becomes obsolete," the officer who requested anonymity added.

An outsider, University of the Philippines [UP] professor Carol Hernandez, thinks the reformists are "intently watching" the AFP leadership and the reforms that will take place. Hernandez, chairman of the UP political science department and an expert on the military, dismisses fears that the reformists may initiate a power grab should they be dissatisfied with the new administration. "They are not interested in power. They are interested in professionalism," she said. She stressed that the reformists recognize the value of popular support, which made the military rebellion successful, and would think twice before embarking on an action that will go against popular will and sentiment.

"We appreciate people's power," Lt. Pama agreed. "It is a warning to all..."

Tarrazona explained, "It takes very little to make a professional soldier....just (the fulfillment of) basic needs, not ambition." He added that those nurturing political ambitions should resign from the AFP and run for public office.

PC Col. Martinez said the reform movement would have a "Self-policing" function in this regard.

The reformists have also "kept (themselves) out" of appointments in the Armed Forces by not making recommendations to chief of staff Gen. Fidel Ramos. "Sometimes, we gave suggestions but only when we were consulted," said one reformist. "We will refuse juicy appointments to show that we did not rebel for personal satisfaction. The idea of the revolution was to do away with such a practice so why do we have to break it?" Pama said. So far, none of the reformists have been given new assignments. Some of them want to go to the field, others want to return to their mother units while some are happy with their current positions.

COPPER MINERS OCCUPY COMPANY OFFICES IN LATUPAN

OW060503 Tokyo KYODO in English 0448 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Cebu City, Philippines, March 6 KYODO -- Striking workers of Atlas Mining and Consolidated Development Corporation, in Lutupan town, 52 kilometers west of Cebu city, Wednesday broke into the mining firm's offices and barricaded the entrances. Some 7,000 workers affiliated with the Southern Philippine Federation of Labor (SPFL) went on strike Monday demanding additional allowances and wage increases.

Lawyer Hidelito Pascual, personnel manager of one of the world's biggest copper mines, said the company was forced to stop operations because of diminishing copper reserves. He said that the company is in no position to grant the workers' demands because of huge financial losses incurred over the past two years.

Kavid Koogler, executive vice president of Atlas, said the company owes millions of pesos to suppliers and cannot obtain additional bank loans. Efforts made by Lt. Col. Jewel Canson, the local paramilitary commander, to settle the strike proved futile. He asked Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Vidal to talk to strikers Wednesday evening. Canson sent more troops Thursday to secure the firm's power stations after workers threatened to cut the mine's power and water supply.

TALKS WITH NPA BEGIN; SISON REMARKS ON CEASEFIRE

HK070525 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0400 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Secret talks are underway to work out a ceasefire between the government and the NPA. The government is stepping up the momentum of good will generated by its release of top communist leaders Jose Maria Sison and Bernabe Buscayno. Deputy Defense Minister Rafael Ileteo has been put in charge of holding talks with the NPA. The early reports say that surrender feelers have been received from the dissident group in Bataan. In Zamboanga another rebel group has indicated its willingness to hold a dialogue.

At a news conference shortly after his release, alleged Communist Party chairman Jose Maria Sison said there are several steps to be taken before the NPA abandons its armed struggle.

[Begin Sison recording] There are a lot of things to do first before that can happen. But certainly the release of political prisoners is a major act of goodwill on the part of the Aquino administration. I think the problems between us lie only on the side of the revolutionaries [as heard]. There are also problems on the side of the Aquino administration that it must first solve. [End recording]

PNA DISCUSSES RELEASE OF COMMUNIST DETAINEES

BK070054 Manila PNA in English 0037 GMT 7 Mar 86

[By Al O. Labita Jr]

[Text] Manila March 7 (PNA) -- Wednesday's dash to freedom of four detained ranking communist leaders showcased President Corazon Aquino's determined will to win over the rebels to her government despite doubts raised by the military. The four were supposed to join some 400 others ordered freed by President Aquino last week, but the military objected.

Security officials said the release of the four was not an ironclad guarantee that they would respond to the president's national reconciliation policy. They feared that the four would only exploit their freedom of movement to pursue their long-held obsession to topple the democratic government and establish a totalitarian state.

But the 53-year-old Aquino insisted the release of all political prisoners "without exception" in keeping with her promise during the campaign for the Feb 7 snap presidential elections. The widow of assassinated opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr had pledged before that she would free political detainees to forge national reconciliation and unity.

The military's apprehensions appeared understandable. Two of those released from military stockades used to be the brains of the communists' political and military offensive against the government. They were Jose Ma. Sison, chairman of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), and Bernabe Buscayno, alias "Commander Dante," the once feared leader of the New People's Army, the CPP's fighting force.

Both Sison and Buscayno had been largely instrumental for the phenomenal growth of the communist insurgency in the Philippines until their capture in mid-seventies. Sison, a former political science professor at the state-run University of the Philippines, and Buscayno, from a peasant family, had been tagged by military authorities as "dyed-in-the-wool" communists.

Their determination to seize power through violence and other means will never change, a security official said.

Sison, 47, has been quoted by press reports that he would not renounce violence. "I don't have to renounce violence. I have always rejected the use of unjust violence. I am not going to announce anything that states things so simplistically," he told newsmen.

While the military had no qualms about following President Aquino's order, it indicated that it would "punish severely" those who abuse the government's reconciliation program. Armed Forces Chief Gen Videl V. Ramos had already beefed up by an additional battalion of troops the security forces in the insurgency-infested Bicol region.

The deployment followed last Monday's ambush-killing in the region's Albay Town of 12 policemen and five civilians by heavily armed communist guerrillas. The incident was the first of such a scale reported since Aquino's ascension last week as the country's seventh president. It could not be determined if the ambush signalled renewed communist drive against government forces in the countryside.

President Aquino had hoped that with the release of political detainees, those in the hills would heed her call for a ceasefire and return to the fold of the law "in the spirit of national reconciliation."

BISHOP OFFERS TO NEGOTIATE COMMUNIST SURRENDER

HK060315 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0300 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] A top church official has offered to negotiate for the surrender of around 600 communists and communist sympathizers believed scattered in various areas of the Cebu mountains. Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal made the offer in a conference with the Central Visayas Regional Unified Command chief, Colonel Jose Santos. Col Santos appealed to all the dissident groups to avail themselves of the newly-installed government's magnanimity by bringing insurgents and communist sympathizers back to the fold of the law. He assured that the military will provide security for all those who will surrender, and help work out their rehabilitation.

CEBU'S TOP NPA LEADER KILLED IN GUN BATTLE

HK050156 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Mar 86 p 1, 7

[By Leo Enriquez]

[Text] A top dissident leader in Cebu who escaped from detention at Camp Sergio Osmena Sr. more than three years ago was killed Saturday after a fierce gunbattle. He was identified as Gilberto Cudias alias Kumander Pecos of the New People's Army, 26, married, and a native of Maca-as, Catmon, Cebu.

Reports reaching Cebu City yesterday said that Cudias shot it out with elements of the Military special Operations Group. He was cornered in his house in Catmon, 56 kilometers north of Cebu City in the midnight of March 1 and engaged the military in a 15 minute gunbattle.

Cudias was captured along with six others in a raid of a safehouse on Dec 25, 1982 along Lopez Jaena st., in Cebu City, along with Rebomafil Holganza Sr.; his son Joey Boy, and Dr Felimon Alberca. All of them, were charged with rebellion before the local court of first instance. One of them, Carlito Sandag, turned state witness during the hearing.

Cudias escaped from his cell on Dec 25, 1983 and regrouped his men and imposed a reign of terror in the hinterlands of Carmen, Catmon, and Sogod. He and his 40-man armed band had been tagged as responsible for the death of more than 12 civilians and soldiers in these towns for a period of more than three years. The death of Cudias is considered to be a major blow against the local dissident movement following a renewed counter-insurgency campaign launched by the military just two days ago.

2 AQUINO SUPPORTERS KIDNAPPED IN LUZON

HK070419 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Mar 86 p 3

[Text] San Fernando, Pampanga -- Two alleged supporters of President Aquino were kidnaped and believed liquidated by armed men in barangay sta Cruz, Lubao, Pampanga last Feb 17. Ms Ami Arian, spokesman of the Cental Luzon Chapter of Task Force Detainees, identified the two supporters as Ernesto Bacani, 38, and Julio Manacup, 25, both of barangay Pulungmasle, Guagua, Pampanga. They were among the four political detainees missing in Pampanga. The two others were Rogelio Alfonso and Reynaldo Buan.

Camp Olivas authorities said that Gen Fidel V. Ramos, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, has directed Maj Oscar Marcelo, chief of the first district of the Criminal Investigation Service, to investigate the alleged kidnaping of Bacani and Manacup.

Relatives of the kidnaped victims expressed fears that they might have been liquidated. They have requested Task Force Detainees to locate the two. Reports reaching Camp Olivas said Bacani and Manacup left their homes on the evening of Feb 17. Witnesses told probers that they saw the two being dragged out of a restaurant in barangay sta. Cruz, Lubao by armed men.

CANOY: MOVEMENT FOR INDEPENDENT MINDANAO REVIVED

HK041600 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Mar 86 p 6

[By Casiano Navarro Jr]

[Text] Cagayan de Oro City - Defeated presidential candidate Reuben Canoy disclosed here yesterday that some leaders of a multisectoral group has revived a movement seeking the creation of an independent state for the 18 million people in Southern Philippines. The second largest island, Mindanao contributes 35-40 percent of the country's gross national products (GNP). It has vast natural resources and a number of multinational corporations are located in the island. Its vast land area also offers excellent site for air and naval bases.

Canoy, the standard bearer of the Socialist Democratic Party in the Feb 7 presidential polls, said that "unlike the old Mindanao Independence Movement (MIM) founded by former Gov Datu Udtong Matalam of Cotabato in 1971, the new movement for independence is supported by both Muslim and Christian leaders." He reported that in Marawi City last Friday, "I talked to the leaders of this movement and they told me that they are ready to announce the independence of the Republic of Mindanao because even the elements of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) have offered to join forces with Muslim and Christian leaders who were previously opposed to them."

Canoy added that aside from the confusion that came as a result of the revolution which catapulted President Corazon Aquino to power and the alleged political harassment and persecution of several local civil and military officials, the leaders of the movement are also banking on the support of hundreds of military officers and men stationed in Mindanao.

"In effect, this move is a challenge to the legitimacy of the Aquino administration whose right to power was supported by the people of Metro Manila but the movement's leaders claimed that the leaders of Mindanao do not approve her ascendency to the presidency."

He added that while the movement recognizes the authority of Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos, "they vehemently refused to yield to the new government of President Aquino." Canoy quoted some leaders of the movement as saying that "if Mrs. Aquino was able to seize power with the use of people power, there is no reason why Mindanao cannot earn its liberty through the same means."

MNLF SEEKS IMPLEMENTATION OF TRIPOLI AGREEMENT

HK050959 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 3 Mar 86 p 1, 6

[By Marc Logan]

[Text] As president Aquino heard mass at the Luneta yesterday afternoon, Muslims held their own prayer rally at the Islamic Center in Quiapo, where they warned that they would take military action, through the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), if the new government does not fully implement the terms of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement. The Muslim leaders called for participation and representation in the national government, specifically the Cabinet. This is the only way that the Muslims can enjoy true autonomy promised them, they said. At a prayer rally spearheaded by the Muslim Federal Party and held at the Islamic Center in Quiapo yesterday, Datu Sing Abbas of the Bangsa Moro said that the MNLF is ready to launch a military campaign as a show of force.

"If the President denies our appeal, then her government is no better than the Marcos administration," he said. He pointed out that the late Benigno Aquino Jr. himself had "promised to us that the Tripoli Agreement will grant greater participation among Muslims in the national and local affairs of the government."

The Muslims also denounced the delay in the release of Bernabe Buscayno and Jose Ma. Sison who they said acted as "butchers" for the Bangsa Moro group in the fight against former President Marcos.

In the same manner, they called for the release of Muslim political detainees accused by the former government of having hatched the 1981 "Operation June Bride" plot to assassinate the former president.

Abbas also appealed to the Aquino government to replace Muslim KBL leaders in the South who misused funds intended for development projects there.

Abul Khayr Alonto, Federal Party secretary general, said Muslims deserve two to three seats in the government. This would forge unification with the Filipino people. He added that the negotiation with the MNLF must continue under the Aquino government. "We have waited for so long to have the Tripoli Agreement implemented. This is our only chance, and President Aquino should not deny our plea," Alonto said.

Minister Datu Mama Sinsuat, KBL presidential adviser on Muslim Affairs in the Marcos government, said that only through greater representation in the government, particularly the Cabinet, can Muslims enjoy the autonomy.

Jimmy Sampao, alias Kumander Faruk, intelligence officer of the MNLF urban guerrilla warfare who operates in Metro Manila, however said that he and 17 other commanders were satisfied with the development.

He told the TIMES JOURNAL that if the revolution of the people in support of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and AFP Chief of Staff Gen Fidel Ramos did not take place, he and the rest of the 11,000-strong MNLF troopers would have come to Manila to create chaos to unseat former President Marcos.

Faruk said that his followers, mostly civilians but fully equipped with high-powered arms, trooped to Manila to support the rebel forces of Enrile and Ramos on the night of Feb 22, when the tension started.

ENVOY OPTIMISTIC OVER PEACE TALKS WITH MUSLIMS

HK060644 Hong Kong AFP in English 0632 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 6 (AFP) -- A Philippine envoy sent to Malaysia to explore the possibility of peace talks with exiled leaders of the separatist Moslem Bangsa Moro Army said Thursday he was optimistic they would agree to meet with the new government of President Corazon Aquino. "I am optimistic. Everything is going smoothly and I don't foresee any problems," Col Hernani Figueroa -- who belongs to the reformist group in the military -- told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by phone from Kuala Lumpur.

The colonel, travelling on orders of Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, said he had met with Dinas Pundato and Macapanton Abbas of what is known as the reformist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in Sabah and that Moro envoys could be ready to come to Manila for talks within a week. The two separatist leaders lead one of the three main factions of the MNLF which has fought for 16 years for a separate Moslem state in based in southern Mindanao. Officials estimate the death toll in the struggle at 60,000.

Col Figueroa also said he considered it "a possibility" that the communist New People's Army (NPA) might try to sabotage any peace talks because it would leave the Philippine Army free to concentrate on fighting the communists, rather than fighting on two fronts. Mr Abbas' brother, Sultan Firdhaus Abbas, who accompanied Col Figueroa, said he considered the important thing was that the reformist Moro commanders had faith in the sincerity of the new government's promise to offer autonomy but not a separate state to the Moslems.

Sultan Abbas said, however, the reformist Moro were concerned that Agapito (Butz) Aquino, the president's brother-in-law appeared to be acting as unofficial advisor to her on Moslem Affairs, and that Mrs Aquino had yet to appoint any Moslems to her Cabinet.

There are an estimated four to five million Moslems in the Philippines, and Sultan Abbas, who heads the legal Manila-based political arm of the reformists, said his group believed that any advisor to Mrs Aquino on Moslem affairs should be both Moslem and a Moro. However, he said he was "confident" that he and Col Figueroa would be able to "bring back the top men of the MNLF" within five days if there were no hitches. He did not elaborate on what the problems might be.

The sultan dismissed the significance of Libya-based MNLF chairman Nur Misuari, who has significant backing in the Arab world, saying that most of his followers in the Philippines and in exile had deserted him. A former Misuari aide who has surrendered to the authorities told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE last week that Mr Misuari may return to the Philippines if autonomy is granted.

Sultan Abbas has put the armed strength of his faction at some 15,000 men, and said he was optimistic that if negotiations were successful some 200,000 Moro refugees in the Malaysian state of Sabah could return to the Philippines.

MNLF, CONSTABULARY CLASH LEAVES 8 DEAD

HK050949 Manila BULLETIN. TODAY in English 2 Mar 86 p 6

[By Correspondent Vice Arevalo]

[Text] Zamboanga City -- Seven rebels of the Moro National Liberation Front and a Constable were killed when a joint PC [Philippine Constabulary] and militia patrol was attacked by 50 armed men last Thursday morning at the road junction of Barangay Palikpong and Kulasi in Naimbong municipality in Sulu.

Four of the rebels, reportedly headed by Kumander Amsad of barangay Bulingawan, Parang municipality, were also wounded in a 30-minute exchange of gunfire, according to a belated PC report sent from Zulu received by Brig Gen Carlos C Aguilar, 9th PC-INP [Integrated National Police] regional commander. The report said that three PC soldiers and one unidentified militiaman of barangay Labasa, Paemonbong municipality were also wounded.

The rebels fled toward Barangay Baliwangan, bringing along their wounded as reinforcement from the 4th PC company and policemen from the town of Paembong arrived. Aguilar said the slain trooper was identified as Constable Allen Japan of the 75th PC company. The wounded soldiers were Sgt. Ladiallah, CIC [Constable 1st Class] Javier Enlani and C2C [Constable 2d Class] Hernai Ampang.

PESO STRENGTHENS TO NEAR PRE-ELECTION VALUE

HK050242 Hong Kong AFP in English 0227 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, March 5 (AFP) -- The Philippine peso was quoted at 20 to the U.S. dollar at the official rate Wednesday, close to its pre-election level of 19, a Central Bank spokesman, said. Wednesday's official rate was a 1.673 peso (0.08 dollar) improvement on Tuesday's 21.673 to the dollar.

The peso had plunged from 19 to the dollar before a February 7 presidential election to 24.1 on February 22, at the start of a civilian-military revolt which toppled President Ferdinand Marcos four days later. It has been gradually recovering since Mr. Marcos fled the country and a new government headed by Corazon Aquino took over.

BUSINESSMEN URGE CAUTION ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT

HK041328 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Mar 86 p 3

[By Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] Is the Philippines about to open its door wide open for foreign investors -- to the detriment of local businessmen? The Philippines, once considered the least recommended investment area in the Asia-Pacific region, has overnight turned things around and appears headed for a major rally in attracting foreign capital.

Reports reaching BUSINESS DAY showed that the response of the international community to the Aquino government has been, to say the least, overwhelming.

Vicente O. Agustin, president of the Foreign Buyers Association of the Philippines, pointed out that foreign buyers are not only willing to increase purchases from the country but are also contemplating coming over and looking for new investment opportunities.

Raul T. Concepcion, chairman and president of Concepcion Industries, Inc. reported that his business associates including Carrier Corp., a division of United Technologies, Kelvinator Corp., a division of White Consolidated Industries, Motorola, Inc. and Century Electric have not only congratulated the Philippines but have hinted at the possibility of investing here.

Newly appointed Finance Minister Jaime V. Ongpin has publicly stated that he prefers foreign capital over additional loans. He said foreign capital will be welcome in such areas as food production and rural-based industries. This thrust, while grounded on sound consideration including the huge foreign debt left by the Marcos government and the disincentives to foreign investment in the past three years, should be closely scrutinized, some businessmen believe.

One executive explained that the Philippines has become fair game to foreign investors who are more than eager to get a headstart in the economy. "What we have to be careful of," he said, "is that we do not allow foreign investors to simply take over the operations of local firms, many of which are in the brink of collapse as a result of the three-year crisis."

The cheap peso-dollar exchange rate has made the Philippines extremely attractive for foreign investors. Some fear they might simply buy out local businessmen.

Concepcion said "There is an urgent need for government to immediately define the parameters and the specific areas under which foreign investments are welcomed and desired." He said the government should be cautious in allowing foreign investments in trading and manufacturing activities that are more than adequately covered by existing firms and are geared primarily towards the domestic market.

Many fear that economic events in the coming weeks might resemble those in 1984 when the government, desperate for foreign capital, liberalized investment rules and allowed foreign investments in almost all sectors, except where explicitly prohibited by the Constitution. The rule, effective for one year, allowed foreign partners or principals to buy out their weak local partners. Several Filipino firms were taken over by foreign partners because they could not pay for trade credits which they had to get to sustain their operations.

PNA ON CENTRAL BANK EFFORTS TO REVISE IMF TARGETS

BK050341 Manila PNA in English 0315 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Manila, Marc 5 (PNA) -- The Philippines plans to seek from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) a revision of previously agreed quantitative performance targets for March to enable the government to undertake measures to reflate the economy. Central Bank Governor Jose D. Fernandez said the targets that may have to be modified are those on reserve money and the net international reserves level. Fernandez said that those targets have been exceeded and will have to be adjusted upwards.

For instance, reserve money which consists of currency in circulation plus bank reserves with the Central Bank, has reached 40.5 billion pesos (2.2 billion U.S. dollars) as of Feb 21, significantly higher than the 38 billion pesos (1.9 million U.S. dollars) being targeted for March 31.

"While we are still some way from the program targets for March 31, we do not believe that the deviation or slippage from those targets will be all that significant," Fernandez said. He said that there would have to be some modification or waiver in those targets if the IMF insists on having March 31 as the performance date.

Performance dates under the standby arrangement with the IMF are usually spread out evenly over the term of the arrangement. The present standby arrangement which involves 615 million in Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) covers 18 months and is to expire on June 30, 1986.

Compliance with performance targets are crucial to the releases of funds from the fund. So far, the Philippines has obtained a total of 398 million SDRs from the present arrangement. The release of the remaining 212 SDRs from the Fund depends on the Philippines having complied with the performance targets.

Fernandez said that a mission from the IMF will arrive here next week to review the present standby-arrangement. This would be the third performance review to be conducted by the IMF. Approval of the third review by the IMF Executive Board would enable the Philippines to draw the last two tranches from the IMF. In turn, the releases by the IMF will trigger the disbursement of the last tranche amounting to 350 million dollars in new money from the international commercial banks.

ITALIAN MINISTER PLANS TO REVIVE PROJECT AID

HK061450 Hong Kong AFP in English 1414 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Singapore, March 6 (AFP) -- Italy plans to revive project aid to the Philippines frozen after opposition Leader Benigno Aquino's 1983 murder, an Italian minister said here Thursday. Deputy Foreign Minister Bruno Corti said Rome also intend to offer other forms of economic help.

The Italian Government has considered project finance by way of grants, as well as arrangements to regularise immigration and currency remittances for Filipinos who form nearly a third of one million foreign workers in Italy, said Mr. Corti at a press conference.

The minister said his three-day visit here was shortened to make a visit to the Philippines, starting Friday, when he was due to meet new President Corazon Aquino, the widow of ousted strongman Ferdinand Marcos's slain rival. He is to be the first minister from abroad to visit Manila under the Aquino administration.

Mr. Corti declined to give details of the proposed Italian aid or to put a figure to it pending discussions with the Filipino leaders.

Italian project aid was frozen after Mr. Aquino's August 1983 murder at Manila Airport.

He said the Philippines was a "priority country" in Italy's large aid programme for Third World countries.

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